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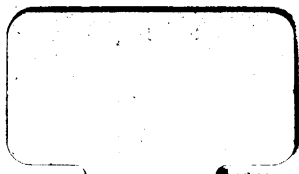
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HISTORY
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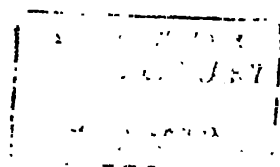
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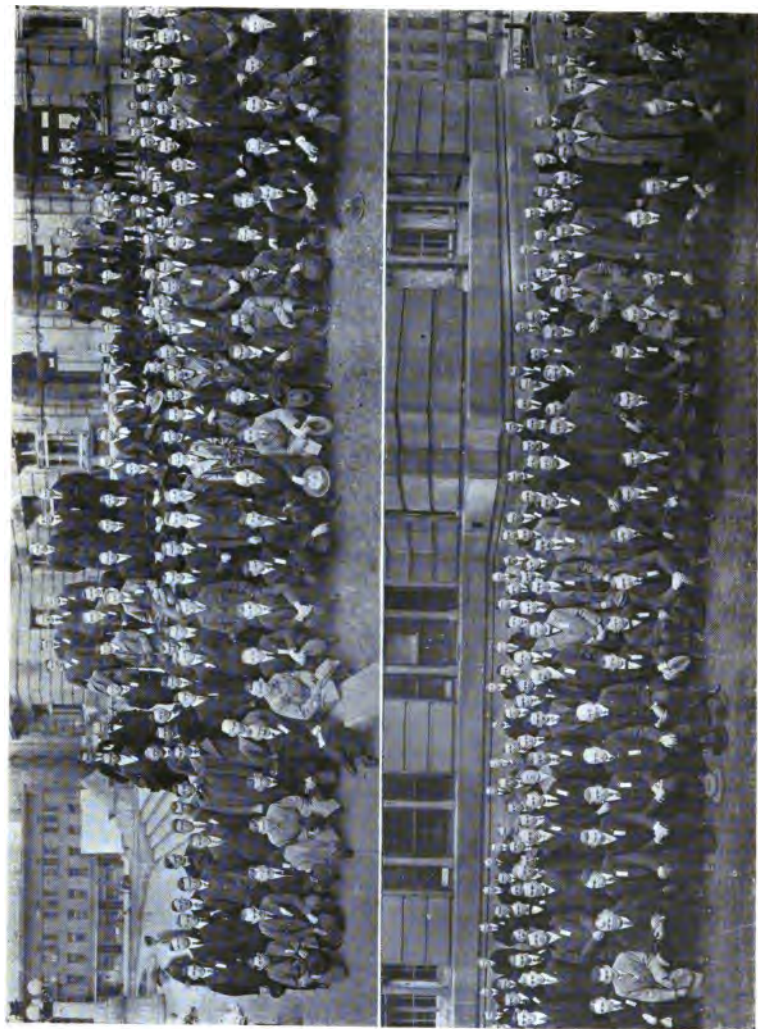


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First State Convention, Omaha, (1919)

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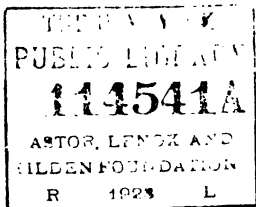
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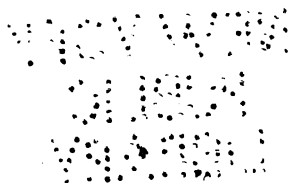
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NEBRASKA

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*Dedicated to those valiant Soldiers and
Sailors of Nebraska who made the
supreme sacrifice for their Country.*

FOREWORD

It is a difficult task to write a history. Especially is this true when one is very close to his subject and must choose from a thousand details those things of historical interest.

It has been the desire of the author to write this history in a narrative form, keeping away from dry convention proceedings and minutes and yet giving all the facts and important events concerning the Nebraska branch of the American Legion that have transpired during the first four years of its existence.

Even though this history must be written during the spare moments that one can snatch from a busy life, the writing has been a genuine pleasure. The American Legion of Nebraska has grown into a great organization made up of splendid young men with high and noble ideals, and the recording of their achievements and aspirations has been an inspiring task. It is a particular pleasure to set down a few expressions regarding the founders of the organization who have given so unstintingly of their time and have worked so hard to make the American Legion an institution of which America and our own state of Nebraska is justly proud.

The author wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to "The American Legion Weekly", "The Mid-West Veteran", and to George S Wheat, author of "The Story of the American Legion", for many facts and figures which have been most valuable in the compilation of this book.

Lincoln, Nebr. July, 1922.

F. B. O'C.

To the Men of the American Legion:

Having served in the Civil War for three years, and with the experience of almost three score years in civil life since, and noting with considerable interest events during that time which did much in shaping legislation and placing wholesome laws on our statute books, and knowing the direct and indirect influence which the young men had in giving direction to the Ship of State, I may, without seeming to be egotistic, express my views as to the part to be taken by the young men of the American Legion.

You have splendid mental and physical endowments. Your military training has supplemented nature in giving you great physical endurance which qualifies you for the hard and rugged passages in life. You should not hesitate to use these powers in giving direction to the affairs of state. In all moral, social and political reforms your position is at the front. Do not be mere followers. There is always an abundance of material to serve in the rear guards. Your place is at the front, blazing the way for the onward march of your country in all her high and holy aspirations.

Lincoln, Nebr.
August, 1922.

J. H. PRESSON,
Past Department Commander,
Grand Army of the Republic.

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History of the Nebraska American Legion

CHAPTER I

The American Legion in France

Some years before the great world war, Arthur Hoffman, editor of Adventure, organized a traveller's club which he called an "American Legion". That was long before the fateful day of August, 1914, when the news of impending war flashed around the globe, and long before four and a half million young Americans donned the khaki and blue and went forth to fight for their country. Little did that editor then realize that he was to coin a name for a great organization of world war veterans; an organization which was destined to become one of the largest and most powerful societies in America; an organization that was to play an important part in the history of a great nation.

For really and truly these four and a half million stalwart sons of the great western Democracy were an American Legion. So it must have seemed to those discouraged peoples of Europe who for four long years had been holding back the enemy to preserve their civilization. What a thrill it must have given those weary comrades of our Allies when they saw the never-ending stream

of khaki begin to pour out of the great liners and make its way to the battlefields! How it must have recalled to their minds the centuries long past when Roman legions swept through Europe! But these former legions had come with selfish ambitions and with the lust of power driving them forward; here came a legion urged on only by the high ideals of a great democratic nation, desiring to preserve civilization rather than destroy it. What better name could the American world war veterans have selected for their organization than "The American Legion"?

And thus when a group of officers met at the Allied Officers' Club, Rue Faubourg St. Honore, Paris, France, on the evening of February 16, 1919, a name was ready for the society which they were to form. These soldiers had gathered at the French capital to discuss ways and means for bettering conditions of the army in France, at the direction of Great Headquarters at Chaumont. After the discussion of the problem before them, the conversation turned to the possibilities of organizing a veterans' society. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Colonel Franklin D'Olier, Colonel Eric Fisher Wood, Colonel Bennett C. Clarke and others began to turn the matter in their minds and to visualize the great need for and possibilities of such an organization. They realized that very soon the millions of fighters would be demobilized and would return to the various stations of civil life from whence they had come. For a short time, perhaps, these war-weary

fighters would want to forget their military experiences, to close their eyes upon those long months that had oftentimes seared their very souls. But it would not be for long. Something was born in those dark days of hardship and privation that they could not forget—something that would increase as the years went by. This mysterious force would stir within them and take them back to the old days of war service just as it had taken the veterans of the Civil War. They would want to gather around the old camp fires again and recount the experiences of the past. The spirit of comradeship would be the mysterious force that would stir within them and draw them together again. Many of these fighters might not realize, perhaps, for many months what this comradeship was to mean to them, or how much pride they would come to take in their military service, but they would eventually. Would not history repeat itself and world war veterans follow in the footsteps of those noble patriots of the great Grand Army of the Republic? And if they did, would not they want to be members of a veterans' organization that would offer them the opportunity to renew old friendships and dwell in reminiscences?

What a splendid thing it would be to have a great organization composed of young men from all walks of life, men of all religious creeds, men from all parts of the United States, standing together in peace as they had stood together in war! What a splendid thing it would be for these

young fighters to go back to the pursuits of peace determined to perpetuate the fine comradeship and ideals which they had found in their tour of war duty! And what a splendid and noble thing it would be for these service men to stand together and work toward the end of making America a better place in which to live as well as the ideal nation for all the world to follow and admire!

Since there were representatives of about twenty divisions of the American Expeditionary Forces present at the Paris meeting, it was possible to get a frank though somewhat general opinion of the best way to go about the organization of a veteran body. It was thought advisable by most of those present to formulate temporary plans and arrange for a meeting that would be open to all who might care to take part. Several more meetings of this particular group were held and the matter thoroughly discussed. It was soon felt, however, that this group was by no means representative of the entire army and navy, and that it would be necessary to have two great caucuses—one to bring together representatives of the veterans of the A. E. F., and the other to assemble representatives of the men in the camps at home.

Here the founders of the American Legion made a wise and just decision that was to play a most important part in the ultimate success of the organization. Many soldiers and sailors, through no fault or desire of their own, had been

held in American camps and had not been able to reach foreign shores. Many men had just arrived in Europe from America when the war ended, leaving them no opportunity to see service at the front. Many others had been held in the rear in the Service of Supplies to carry on in that thankless phase of war work. Had the war lasted another year or so, the vast majority of the men who were at home in the camps would have been sent overseas; perchance, had the struggle ceased a few months sooner, many of those in France never would have reached European shores.

Who, then, was to be given membership in the American Legion?

It was finally decided that for an organization to live and accomplish great things, it must be founded on principles that were just and fair to all service men; that the only sensible thing to do was to make it possible for all men with honorable records in the military service, either at home or abroad, to become members.

The next step in the process of organization was the appointment of a temporary committee to carry out the plans formulated at the initial meeting. This committee must be representative of the various units of the A. E. F., and it must conduct itself in such manner as not to give the false impression that it was a small group of picked men merely contriving to serve some ulterior or selfish end. This called for a personnel of the very best quality. When a canvas was made, it was unanimously decided that Lieuten-

ant-Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, of the 1st Division, should be temporary Chairman, Bennett C. Clark temporary Vice-Chairman, and Eric Fisher Wood temporary Secretary.

Several sub-committees were formed, the duty of one of which would be to collect the names of individuals serving with the various units of the A. E. F., and of units at home, and arrange for two caucuses—one to be held in Paris and the other in the United States. The work of this committee was extremely difficult. While it was possible to get the names of soldiers and sailors in every branch of the service, it would not be so easy to get them to attend the caucuses. Many units which had served in France were now on their way home, while the others were in Germany and in isolated districts many hours from the French Capital.

At this point another quite formidable obstacle came in the way. How was it possible for representatives from units of the A. E. F., especially enlisted men, to attend without proper authority from G. H. Q.? And would it be possible to get enlisted men to discuss these matters with officers of high rank? And who was to bear the expense of those representatives, most of whom would have to travel a considerable distance?

These were vital problems that meant much to the success of the meeting and must be solved before further work could be done. The temporary committee charged with this duty fully realized that if a veterans' organization was to be

great and strong and undivided in its aims and purposes, it must number among its members the majority of enlisted men, for of the four and a half million, nearly four millions were soldiers and sailors who had done their bit in the ranks. Leaders from this great group must be urged to attend the caucuses. By devious means, the committee was finally able to get a number of enlisted men selected as delegates; and the big Paris meeting was scheduled for March 15, 16 and 17, 1919.

The first delegates to the A. E. F. caucus, many of them arriving several days in advance, brought amusing stories of methods they had used to slip into the French capital and avoid the rigid rules of the American Provost Marshall as well as overcoming personal financial handicaps. Some of the enlisted delegates came as orderlies for commissioned delegates; others entered the city without passes concealed in army trucks. One delegate came to Paris to obtain "rat poison" for his company cook, so the story went, while another enterprising and healthy individual came for special medical treatment. It is said that one buck private purported to carry important documents which really consisted of nothing but well-folded newspapers! By one way and another the rigid rules of the A. P. M. and his army of military police were evaded and a goodly number of non-commissioned officers, buck privates, wagoners and farriers were among the delegates present. Although a few of these warriors did not have

authority to come, that did not make a great deal of difference so far as the particular job ahead of them was concerned.

The Paris meeting was held in the American Club, near the Place de la Concorde. Colonel Roosevelt had already left France to organize that part of the army and navy which did not get overseas, so Colonel Bennett C. Clark of the 88th Division was selected Chairman. Upon the first roll call it was found that almost one thousand delegates were present, embracing representatives from nearly every unit of the great A. E. F. The meeting had been in session only a short time when a motion was made and unanimously adopted which provided, while in meeting assembled, there would be no observance of rank. It is interesting to note that this rule has been followed ever since in all meetings of the American Legion.

Considerable important work was accomplished by this Paris meeting and much of the groundwork for the organization was laid. Of course, no well-planned course of action had been prepared and the majority of delegates had given the matter in hand but very little study. Nevertheless, it is not amiss to say that these veterans had had such an idea in the back of their heads for some time and that here the American Legion was born. Some of the action taken did not work out successfully and the constitution adopted was to be later greatly improved and strengthened. But the seed was planted and a great veterans' organization was gotten under way.



Allan A. Tukey
National Vice Commander (1920)

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Among the more noteworthy things accomplished was the appointment of an executive committee made up of two members from each A. E. F. unit represented and eight members at large to be selected by the committee itself; the drafting of a tentative constitution that would set forth in some detail the purpose and object of the organization. Here follows the preamble of this first constitution:

"We the members of the Military and Naval Service of the United States of America in the great war, desiring to perpetuate the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy for which we have fought, to inculcate the duty and obligation of the citizen to the state; to preserve the history and incidents of our participation in the war; and to cement the ties of comradeship formed in service, do propose to found and establish an association for the furtherance of the foregoing purposes."

One of the committees of the caucus was charged with the selection of a name for the organization. It was reported by a member of this committee that many titles were suggested and considerable discussion took place. It is interesting in passing to repeat some of those names submitted:

"Comrades of the Great war."

"Liberty League."

"Army of the Great War."

"Legion of the Great War."

"Great War Legion."

"The American Legion."

Of course, it is needless to say which name was chosen. It is interesting, however, to note how the word "legion" crept into the best titles. It is also needless to comment on the wisdom of the committee in making its final selection.

The outstanding features of the Paris caucus were three in number: First, the desire to get an organization of veterans under way; secondly, to forget rank and personal prejudices and give the soldier and sailor who did not get overseas an equal opportunity of membership; thirdly, to defer action of a permanent nature until a great joint convention could be held in America where all branches of the service could assemble and determine the destiny of their organization.

At any rate, the first caucus laid the foundation for a great national society that was to outstrip all others of its kind. It planted the seed that later was to be brought to fruition and give us an organization with local units in every part of the world, uniting all men and women who had answered their country's call to active duty in the world war.

CHAPTER II

The St. Louis Caucus

As the units of the A. E. F. began to return to America and the service men went to their homes throughout the country, they brought with them the story of the veterans' organization which had been brought into being at Paris. While comparatively few knew a great deal about this association that was to include both the overseas and the home soldiers and sailors, the idea that there should be one big organization of this kind took root and both the Press and all fair-minded citizens took to it very kindly. However, conditions at home were somewhat different from those in France. Here there was competition, for a number of organizations were already in the process of formation and other older organizations were busy trying to enroll world war veterans in their posts. Some of these societies meant well enough and desired to be representative of a certain part of the great body of service men and women; others were fostered merely by individuals or a group who thought they saw a splendid opportunity to promote their political ambitions and put over a program that was more or less selfish. One of these organizations was for buck privates only, another appealed to officers, while another extended its membership to men of all wars who had set foot on foreign soil. Still another, thinking to throw a great political party into the field,

allowed membership to every man or woman who had engaged in any sort of war work whatsoever besides forming numerous auxiliaries that were to include organized labor, farmers, merchants, and practically all citizens of the country!

Fortunately, Colonel Roosevelt returned to America before any of these organizations had made much progress or had enrolled an appreciable number of members. Young "Teddy", with the energy and enthusiasm so characteristic of his famous father, immediately began to advertise and acquaint the country at large with this greater organization which proposed to enroll all veterans of the world war who were actually in the army, navy or marine corps and had served honorably, regardless of rank or branch of service. The Press throughout the country, knowing the Roosevelt reputation for fairness and honesty, gave him considerable publicity and many friendly editorial boosts. The American people had expected to see a great world war veterans' organization established at the close of the hostilities, and this movement interested them. They knew what a great part the Grand Army of the Republic had played in American history during the past half century, and they were anxious to see another organization with similar high ideals and worthy purposes take its place to carry on. The American Legion appealed to them more than any other organization that had solicited their support because it was liberal in its views and promised to serve the country in peace as its members had

served in war. Consequently, American citizens with vision and keen interest in public affairs, got behind the Legion almost to a man. They gave the Legion tremendous prestige and in a great measure made it possible for the organization to jump to the lead. Of course, there were those who were certain that Roosevelt had selfish motives and that he was using the organization as a political stepping stone and would ask to be the first commander of the Legion. But these criticisms did not go far. There were too many men who knew the brilliant war record of this young soldier and had abundant faith in his intentions.

Thus the men who had served at home were acquainted with the American Legion and arrangements were completed for the second big caucus. It was decided to hold this meeting at St. Louis which was centrally located and would be more accessible to representatives from all parts of the United States. The date was set for May 8, 9 and 10, 1919. The country was divided into districts and an attempt was made to get a committee in each of these districts. It was a difficult undertaking to interest men in every part of the country; most service men were just out of the uniform and getting back into the harness to begin on the old job, if they were lucky enough to find it awaiting them. Nor was it easy to get the right type of committeemen. Too many politicians and ambitious self-seekers were awaiting for the opportunity to jump in and gain control of the organization.

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soldiers, sailors and marines formed in their own association, in such manner that they could make themselves felt for law and order, decent living and thinking, and truer 'nationalism'."

The caucus opened in the afternoon of May 8, at the Shubert-Jefferson Theater. Many hours prior to the sounding of the gavel, excitement ran high. These young men, fresh from their service in the greatest adventure of a lifetime, entered into the meeting with an unbounded enthusiasm, a spirit of earnestness and straight thinking that was an innovation in American conventions. Everybody had expected to see a typical political convention, perhaps one not so exciting. To the contrary, they saw a meeting that was intensely interesting, filled with moments of lusty cheering and pandemonium, then suddenly so quiet that one could hear a pin drop to the floor. This was the first demonstration of that American Legion spirit which has since come to be a part of its national conventions.

When Colonel Roosevelt, as temporary chairman, took the platform, a great ovation was given the distinguished young soldier. Hardly had he succeeded in getting order than the floor was thrown open for nominations for permanent chairman of the caucus. Roosevelt was nominated, and, after another noisy demonstration, immediately withdrew his name. But the delegates would not listen to him and for several minutes the hall resounded with, "We want Teddy! We want Teddy!"

"I want to withdraw my name for a number of reasons," Roosevelt explained as soon as he could make himself heard. "The first reason is," he continued, "that I want the country at large to get the correct impression of this meeting. I want every man through the length and breadth of this land to realize that there isn't a man in this convention who is seeking anything for himself personally; that all of us are working simply for the good of the country."

As soon as it became evident that Roosevelt could not be persuaded to become chairman of the meeting, Colonel Henry D. Lindsley, a prominent Democrat of Texas and at that time the head of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, and Sergeant Jack Sullivan, a prominent veteran from the Pacific coast, were nominated. The latter withdrew and Lindsley was elected unanimously. Sullivan was then elected Vice Chairman, along with others representing the navy and marine corps, and Eric Fisher Wood was selected as Secretary.

A great deal of important work was accomplished at St. Louis; in fact, the caucus here carried out many of the plans formulated at Paris. It joined hands with that body in preparing for a great convention to be held at Minneapolis on November 10, 11 and 12, 1919, at which delegates from both the A. E. F. and the men who served in America would come together for the first time.

Paramount in the deliberations which took up the better part of three days was the stand taken on "Americanism"—a part of American Legion

doctrine that has ever since been foremost in its activities. The meeting also voiced frank disapproval of the method of handling the conscientious objectors, as carried out by the War Department, and condemned those individuals and organizations which were attempting, especially in the northwest, to overthrow civil government and introduce radical departures from our national constitution.

Perhaps the most interesting action taken—at least the most interesting to the country at large—was the definition of the creed and explanation of the general purpose of the organization, setting forth just what part it would take in the political life of the nation. Here is a part of the report of the Committee on Resolutions, which voiced the ideas along this line:

“GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND CREED—Recognizing the supreme obligation of the citizens to maintain our national honor and integrity, and being resolved that the fruits of the Great War shall not die, we who participated in the war in order that the principles of justice, freedom and democracy may more completely influence the daily lives of America’s manhood, do announce our adherence to the following principles and purposes:

“To inculcate the duties and obligations of citizenship.

“To preserve the history and incidents of our participation in this war.

"To cement the ties of comradeship formed in the service.

"To promote, assist and protect the general welfare of all soldiers, sailors and marines and those dependent upon them.

"To encourage the maintenance of individual and national efficiency to the end that the nation shall never fail in its obligations.

"To maintain the principles that undivided and uncompromising support of the constitution of the United States is the true test of loyalty."

At this time soldiers and sailors were just returning from France and many, owing to the unsettled conditions of industry at the end of the war, had not been able to get employment. Also many men had never received all of their pay or liberty bonds. Others were still entitled to travel pay, allotment payments and insurance premiums. Hundreds of men, wounded or incapacitated by sickness during their tour of duty, were without federal aid or hospitalization. Therefore the delegates at this caucus determined that one of the foremost activities of the new veteran organization must be to help these men—to be of SERVICE to service men. Machinery was provided by the caucus so that immediate help would be forthcoming for these men, and a great, nation-wide campaign was planned.

It was felt by many that in order to establish local Legion units throughout the country, it would be necessary for the national officers to

have a publication of some kind. Many attractive offers were received from publishers in different parts of the country, but it was finally decided that the American Legion should have a magazine of its own. Thus was born "The American Legion Weekly".

Lastly, the caucus adopted a temporary constitution which defined eligibility for membership in the organization, and authorized the chartering of local posts which were to be named only in honor of the dead. In short, this caucus completed the temporary organization that was begun in France and opened the way for a new organization, composed of all world war veterans—The American Legion.

CHAPTER III

Birth of the Legion in Nebraska

Nebraska soldiers and sailors were among the very first in the country to make plans for a veterans' organization in their state. It should be kept in mind that the Paris caucus took place on March 15, 16 and 17, 1919, and that the St. Louis meeting was held nearly two months later, on May 8, 9 and 10. In the meantime the Cornhuskers made good use of their time. On April 5th—scarcely a month after the Paris gathering—a mass meeting was held in Omaha, the purpose of which was to get an expression from the service men and to make preliminary plans for a state convention. This meeting was arranged by Allan A. Tukey, at the solicitation of the National Executive Committee of the A. E. F. Legion, which was anxious to foster state chapters and therefor had appointed Mr. Tukey temporary State Secretary.

While no official record of this meeting was kept, it seems that a goodly number of veterans attended and that most of the time was devoted to an open discussion of ways and means of getting the men throughout the state interested. A resolution was presented and passed which called upon the various counties of the state to send delegates to a meeting to be held in Lincoln May 3, 1919. It was not the intention of this particular gathering to formulate policies or transact

business but merely plan for a later meeting which would be representative of the entire state.

The second meeting was held in the Hall of Representatives of the State Capitol at Lincoln and was called to order by Mr. Tukey at 2:30 p. m. on the afternoon of May 3. This caucus was the first representative gathering of world war veterans and the first constructive step toward the building of an organization that had ever been held in the state. Upon taking a roll call it was found that delegates were present from the following counties: Burt, Buffalo, Cass, Clay, Dawson, Douglas, Dodge, Hall, Johnson, Lancaster, Lincoln, Nance, Perkins, Richardson, Rock, Stanton, Scottsbluff and York. Several delegations arrived too late for the roll call and were not recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Considerable Legion history was made on that spring afternoon. Here was laid the foundation for the department of the Nebraska American Legion. Those service men who gathered here can truly be called the fathers of the state organization, as Lieutenant-Governor P. A. Barrows, who addressed the meeting, pointed out at the time. The Lieutenant-Governor predicted that they were building a lasting organization that would be of great power and cautioned them to build well, and to take sufficient time to consider each problem that would come before them.

While this gathering was not large, it was representative and numbered among its delegates men from all parts of the state—men who were

willing to add just a little more to the big sacrifice demanded by the God of war, and give still more time and money that those who stood together in war might stand together in peace. A number of delegates to this initial meeting were later to become officers in the American Legion, and to help determine its destiny. Most of those present are still active in veteran circles and doing their bit to make the organization truly serve "God and Country". Allan A. Tukey, of Omaha, who had been decorated for bravery in action, was present and served as chairman of the caucus. Edward P. McDermott, of Kearney, a prominent "buck private" who organized the "Associated Soldiers and Sailors of Buffalo County"—the first county organization of world war veterans in Nebraska,—was also at this meeting. Among others present were John G. Maher, of Lincoln, later selected to serve as State Commander; Frank S. Perkins, of Fremont, who had made the "Camp Dodger" famous; Dr. D. D. King, a well-known physician of York; Jean Cain, of Falls City; Charles H. Epperson, Jr., of Clay Center; T. J. McGuire, of Omaha; and Hird Stryker, of Omaha—all of whom were later to become leaders in the Nebraska Legion.

It is interesting now that the years have begun to fade the ink, to go over the minutes of this meeting. Of course, important features of the gathering were the formation of a state organization to be known as "The Nebraska Branch of the American Legion"—later to be changed to "The

American Legion, Department of Nebraska"—and the election of temporary officers. But the most interesting thing one finds in perusing this record is the determination to build well and to make certain that the organization should be representative of veterans of every rank, creed or color. When it came time to select two delegates at large to serve on the temporary Executive Committee, someone moved that these places be given to two colored soldiers—one to be chosen to represent colored men in Douglas County and the other to represent those in Lancaster. Again we find a motion duly put and carried which instructed the delegates to the St. Louis meeting to work toward the end of allowing membership to those American citizens, who, after being unable to enter the service of our government because of physical handicaps, later served honorably with Allied forces under other flags. And again we find put and carried a motion that invited representatives of the people of Nebraska—the Governor of the state, the Adjutant General, the Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Department Commander of the United Spanish War Veterans and others—to attend the St. Louis caucus as honorary delegates. Here was the key to the success that was to come to the American Legion: its leaders were willing and anxious to take the general public into their confidence and to let the people of the country know exactly what they were about. There was no deception or selfishness; no petty jealousy of rank or branch or

place of service; no distinction in class or creed or color; no desire to take something away from the American people by secret or unfair methods. The representatives of this meeting wanted to build a great organization that would appeal to all veterans—an organization that would serve the country at large as well as the individual soldier and sailor. How well they succeeded in this is left for time to record.

From the beginning it had been the plan of the National Committee to divide the Legion into state branches, allowing each state to organize and supervise all local units within its boundaries—a plan which had been followed by the Grand Army of the Republic and similar organizations and found very successful. In order to get the organization into working order it was necessary to elect officers to carry on this work and to open an office at some convenient place in the state. Thereupon, the caucus elected the following temporary state officers who were to serve until the first state convention which would be held the coming fall prior to the first national meeting:

John G. Maher, Lincoln, Commander.

Edward P. McDermott, Kearney, 1st Vice Commander.

Jean Cain, Falls City, 2nd Vice Commander.

Hugh C. Robertson, Omaha, Secretary.

Frank S. Perkins, Fremont, Treasurer.

It was soon felt that the state organization should have an executive committee to make it representative and well balanced—a principle of

government which the national, state and post organizations have continued to follow ever since. A motion was made and carried which provided that this committee should consist of two hundred members, two being allotted to each county and fourteen members at large to be selected by the caucus. This latter provision was changed by a subsequent motion to provide that the fourteen members at large be selected by the meeting, but that two must come from each Congressional district and the two remaining members must be colored men. Still another amending motion provided that the Sixth Congressional district should have four representatives instead of two, thereby increasing the members at large to sixteen, and the total committee to 202 members. However, the members at large, chosen by the caucus, were the only members ever selected and the only ones to take an active part in the work. Those veterans selected were as follows:

Elmer Hallstrom, Plattsmouth, 1st District.

Arthur Balis, Lincoln, 1st District.

T. J. McGuire, Omaha, 2nd District.

Allan A. Tukey, Omaha, 2nd District.

Joseph A. Storz, Fullerton, 3rd District.

L. L. Fitzsimmons, Fremont, 3rd District.

Dr. D. D. King, York, 4th District.

Edward Goodrich, Fairbury, 4th District.

Charles H. Epperson, Jr., Clay Center, 5th District.

Wm. A. Kenney, Grand Island, 5th District.

Leonard Robinson, North Platte, 6th District.

Benjamin F. Leonard, Bassett, 6th District.

O. H. Kearney, Morrill, 6th District.

Since the St. Louis caucus was scheduled for a meeting the next week, it was necessary that Nebraska send a strong delegation there to assist in shaping the plans for a national organization. It also would be quite important that the new officers learn just how they were expected to proceed in organizing local chapters, and what general outline of work they were to follow. Nebraska was allowed twenty-four delegates, so the following were selected to represent the state at St. Louis:

T. J. McGuire, Omaha.

Roland Scott, Imperial.

O. H. Kearney, Morrill.

Hugh C. Robertson, Omaha.

Allan A. Tukey, Omaha.

George Gilligan, Lincoln.

Burt Howard, Tecumseh.

Elmer Hallstrom, Plattsmouth.

R. J. Madden, Omaha.

Hird Stryker, Omaha.

Robert J. Webb, Omaha.

J. A. Palubicki, Stanton.

L. L. Fitzsimmons, Fremont.

A. L. Stuart, Fremont.

George H. Holdeman, York.

Edward S. Goodrich, Fairbury.

Rudolph Rademacher, York.

G. B. Hastings, Grant.

Dave Meeker, Imperial.

Charles H. Epperson, Jr., Clay Center.

F. F. Fisher, Scottsbluff.
 Victor Halligan, North Platte.
 Edward P. McDermott, Kearney.
 Ralph Coad, Omaha.

Other business transacted at this meeting was the appointment of a committee to draft a temporary constitution and by-laws; the selection of a publicity officer; and the issuing of instructions to the new officers to draw up articles of incorporation for the new organization. These articles, which were filed on May 14th, are interesting because they set forth the purposes of the Nebraska Legion and show when it became a corporation.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF AMERICAN LEGION OF NEBRASKA

Know All Men by These Presents:

That we, John G. Maher, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Allan A. Tukey, Ray J. Madden, Hird Stryker, Ralph Coad, T. J. McGuire, Hugh C. Robertson, of Omaha, Nebraska; on behalf of and in the interest of the soldiers, sailors and marines who served with the allied armies during the recent World War and under the authority of the temporary national organization of the American Legion, have associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under the laws of the State of Nebraska and do hereby adopt these Articles of Incorporation:

1. The name of the corporation shall be the "American Legion".

2. The place where its office for the transacting of business shall be Lincoln, Nebraska.

3. The corporation shall commence business on the 14th day of May, 1919, and terminate on the 14th day of May 1969.

4. The object for which this corporation is organized shall be to inculcate the duties and obligations of citizenship, to preserve the history and incidents of our participation in the war, to cement the ties of comradeship formed in service, to protect, assist and promote the general welfare of all soldiers, sailors and marines and those dependent upon them, to encourage the maintenance of individual and national efficiency to the end that the American people shall never fail in their obligation to humanity, to maintain the sacred doctrine of undivided and uncompromising loyalty to every principle for which the American Nation stands in the belief that that doctrine should be the guiding principle of the every day life of each citizen.

5. The corporation shall have power to receive bequests of real and personal property, to hold and convey both real and personal property, to lease property for the purpose of the organization, to mortgage and incumber its property and to do all other things usually done by corporations for the purpose for which it is organized.

6. The officers of this corporation shall consist of a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and until the next state convention the following

shall serve as officers of this organization: President, John G. Maher; first Vice President, Edward P. McDermott; second Vice President, Jean Cain; Secretary, Hugh C. Robertson; Treasurer, Frank Perkins. The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by an executive committee selected two from each county and sixteen chosen at large. These officers and the members of the executive committee shall serve for a period of one year, or until their successors shall be elected and qualified.

7. The terms and conditions of membership shall be those prescribed by the National Convention of American Legion, but until the first National Convention shall assemble, the regulations prescribed by the National Caucus at St. Louis, May 8th to 10th shall govern.

8. These Articles may be amended by a two-thirds vote of a State Convention provided notice of the proposed amendment shall be given to the Secretary of each county organization at least two weeks preceeding said meeting or convention.

In Witness Whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 14th day of May, 1919.

(SEAL)

John G. Maher
Allan Tukey,
R. J. Madden,
Hird Stryker,
Ralph Coad,
Hugh C. Robertson,
T. J. McGuire.

As soon as the delegates selected at the Lincoln caucus returned home from St. Louis they immediately took up the work of clearing the way for a state organization. The plan adopted at the national caucus provided for a local post of the Legion in each community that had fifteen or more service men. These posts were to be under the jurisdiction of a state department with a centrally located headquarters. The duty of this state office would be to organize posts and assist them to enroll all the available eligibles in every community throughout the state. Later it was to coordinate these posts and build a state organization.

But hardly had the organization work been started when it was discovered that hundreds of returned service men were out of work and, in many cases, unable to get a settlement with the Government for back pay, travel pay, bonds, bonuses, allotments, etc. Many of these men did not know how to cut their way through the red tape which lay between them and the government officials, and large numbers of them were in dire need. Right here was brought most forcibly to the officials of the American Legion the fact that the organization must give service to the veterans if it were to succeed. It did not take the new state officials long to realize that the service work must be taken up at once, regardless of how busy they might be in trying to establish local units and enrolling members.

It should be remembered that the new organiza-

tion had no funds at this time and that all its officers gave their services without remuneration. Many of these men had not as yet re-established themselves since the war and to carry on the Legion work at this time was a distinct hardship. Nevertheless, they took up the task with an indomitable spirit and a willing hand and gave most generously of their time. When they found service men in need, they stopped their organization activities and helped them adjust their claims or secure positions. Though handicapped by having no headquarters or clerical help, they accomplished a great deal and builded a reputation for service of which the organization may well be proud today.

Fortunately, John G. Maher, State Commander, or State President, as this office was designated prior to the first national convention, was able to furnish enough private funds to get the organization machinery in operation. He gave over his private office as a temporary headquarters and put a clerk to work gathering data and sending out literature. Mr. Maher had an unusual ability as an organizer and within the course of a few weeks had arrangements completed to charter a number of posts. He divided the work with Hugh C. Robertson, the State Secretary, and part of the business was transacted from Mr. Maher's office and the other part from Mr. Robertson's office in Omaha. Though the caucus at Lincoln had directed that a department headquarters be opened in the capital city, no effort was made to



John G. Maher
Department Commander (1919)

do so at this time as it was felt that such a step could be better taken after the first state convention and after the permanent officers were selected.

The opening gun in the campaign to interest Nebraska veterans in the American Legion was in the form of a letter sent out to all the newspapers in the state, asking that service men who were desirous of organizing local posts communicate immediately with the Department Secretary. This letter met with great success at the hands of the editors of the state, most of whom not only published it in full in their papers but wrote personal letters to Commander Maher advising that their pages would be open to all such matter the Legion might care to publish. Many of these men expressed themselves as believing that a Legion post would be a good thing for their community, and that they were anxious to help the good cause along.

About the same time that this letter was sent out, Allan A. Tukey, Omaha; Edward Goodrich, Fairbury; A. B. Cram, Tecumseh; F. C. Clarke, Hartington; Robert G. Simmons, Scottsbluff; Dr. Earl C. Boyd, Central City; William K. Edwards, Alliance; Harry P. Letton, Lincoln; Earl M. Cline, Nebraska City; John A. Lawler, Hastings; Edward P. McDermott, Kearney; Frank A. Warner, Norfolk; Charles H. Epperson, Jr., Clay Center; and a number of others who had been active in founding the state association, organized posts in their home towns. Mr. Tukey and Dr. Cram

were the first to get their posts under way; at any rate, their applications for charters were received at Commander Maher's office on the same day. As the applications came to hand, Mr. Maher numbered them consecutively, and each post retained that number as long as it held its charter. Therefore, Omaha was given No. 1, and Tecumseh No. 2. According to the records now in the Department archives, the first post was chartered on July 1, 1919 as "The Douglas County Post, No. 1." The second post was chartered the same day under the name, "The Kenneth A. Curtis Post." Lincoln followed in a few days and was chartered as "Lincoln Post No. 3." Seven other posts were given their charters during July and named as follows: "Fourth Nebraska Post", of Hartington; "Wright-Iron Post, No. 5", of Scottsbluff; "Lone Tree Post, No. 6", of Central City; "Alliance Post, No. 7", of Alliance; "Adam Schellinger Post, No. 8", of Nebraska City; "James Barry Post, No. 9", of Hemingford; and "Morrill Post, No. 10", of Morrill. The rules governing the naming of a post at this time and ever since provided that no unit could be named in honor of any living person. The majority of Nebraska posts, as in other states, named their chapters in honor of departed comrades.

From the early part of July until the first annual state convention held in Omaha October 10 and 11, 1919, there were 110 posts chartered in the Department of Nebraska. Commander Maher

and Secretary Robertson, in little more than three months, made a record for rapid-fire organization work that will ever stand to their credit. These posts were well scattered throughout the state and, with a few exceptions, in the western part of the Commonwealth, one was to be found in each county.

It is interesting to look back on the methods devised to organize posts. Commander Maher employed many ingenious means of getting in touch with service men throughout the state who could be interested in a veterans' organization and who might be willing to give their time and energy in carrying on the work. Even the County sheriffs were utilized. A letter was sent to each Sheriff in the state requesting him to furnish the name of some "live wire" veteran in his county. Several of these guardians of the law interpreted "live wire" to mean something entirely different from that which Mr. Maher had intended. One replied that none of the boys in his county had ever been court-martialed, while in another town the Sheriff called a prominent service man by telephone and told him that he must organize a Legion post at once. Orders to that effect had just been received from the War Department, signed by a Colonel Maher, and army orders must always be carried out and explained afterwards!

In summing up the results of Commander Maher's administration, which lasted but a little more than five months, one is astonished at the

amount of organization work which was accomplished in such a short time and under such handicaps on every side. Over a hundred posts had sprung up in the course of the summer and thousands of veterans had been interested in the new organization. Other societies, which were competing with the Legion for members, scarcely had been able to get a temporary state committee organized. Though Mr. Maher and his temporary committee were not long at the task, it is to be recorded that they accomplished a great deal of constructive labor and played a most important part in the building of the Nebraska American Legion.

CHAPTER IV

The First Annual Convention

The first convention of the Nebraska American Legion was held in Omaha on October 10 and 11, 1919.

This meeting will always stand out in historical importance since it was the first annual gathering of delegates from Nebraska American Legion posts. Most of the one hundred and ten posts then in existence sent representatives to help form the permanent state organization and to carry on the work that had been inaugurated a few months before.

Not only was this meeting of considerable interest to the veterans themselves, but it was also of interest to the public at large. Since many men had been home from France but a few weeks, this was the first time that all the Nebraska veterans of the World War had really gathered to express themselves. What would these service men do? How did they feel about their experiences in the war? What kind of legislation would they recommend? How did the future look to the man just home from the battlefield? Such were the thoughts in the minds of the people of the state who were anxious to see just how the war might have changed the fighting man.

It did not take the delegates to this convention long to answer these questions. With the en-

thusiastic and business-like method which characterizes all gatherings of Legion men, they soon got into action and not only put their organization on a sound, permanent basis, but passed resolutions and endorsed movements that surely must have convinced the public that these young men knew what they were about. First of all, they declared themselves unanimously in favor of old fashioned Americanism and strongly opposed to any radical departure from the kind of government guaranteed by our national constitution. In fact, the stand on this great issue was the dominating spirit of the convention—a spirit that has grown stronger and has taken a more important part in the affairs of the organization as it has grown. There was nothing new about the brand of Americanism that these men wanted, nor were they actuated by selfish motives. Each man seemed to realize that America had just passed through a great crisis; that the world was in the throes of unrest and turmoil; that it was time for straight and sane thinking. The war had put before us a great lesson in loyalty and duty that must now be taken into account and learned if we were to get the most out of the great struggle that had cost so much.

Perhaps we might pause here and attempt an analysis of the state of mind of the average service man when he returned home from the World War. It is now quite evident that his new point of view had much to do with the spirit that

went into the American Legion and the shaping of its destinies in the early years.

First of all, the man who entered the military service of his country had come out changed in a greater or less degree. One cannot enter the service of his country in war and offer his life to its cause without doing a great deal of thinking. He will ask himself if the country is worth the sacrifice and why it is necessary for him to make it. He will compare his role in the struggle with that of other men, and try to determine what brings about such an order of things. And as he thinks, he will gradually come to have a new understanding of patriotism, loyalty and duty will have a new meaning to him. Out of it all will emerge a man with a new vision and a new standard of citizenship.

Then, too, those men that reached Europe, returned home with a new conception of their government. Before they had left the shores of their native land, America had seemed to them a great nation of immense riches that had been in existence many years and had accomplished much. It had been a nation that was much better than all others, and they had presumed that all people living in America had felt the same way about it. They had simply taken for granted that the thousands who came to America to escape the oppression of corrupt governments and to find new opportunities, had left behind their loves and hatreds that had been such an important factor in their lives across the sea. But when the vet-

eran had reached Europe and could look upon America as a foreign land; when he could see the European under the stress of war and observe his hatred for his neighbors; when he could compare America with other nations, the service man gained a new vision of his country that those who remained at home could never get.

Perhaps the most startling revelation was the youth of America. Heretofore the United States had been an old country. Washington had lived and served his country in the dim ages of long ago. But when the American service man traveled through England, France and Italy and viewed the landmarks of empire builders who were dead and gone long before Columbus started on his perilous journey, he was rudely awakened to the fact that, as nations go, America was still in her formative period. She had started well, but, after all, was she old enough to have passed the experimental stage? Were there not many improvements that could still be made, so that without swerving from our original principles, we could give ourselves better government? Would our country, standing beside nations that had been in existence for centuries, be able to take a place in the re-construction work just ahead? Would America be able to compete with those centralized governments that trained their diplomats as they trained their soldiers and who went to the peace table to barter and trade? And would America be able to weld together the great groups of foreign-born who stood apart on na-

tional issues; would she be able to develop a national spirit that would hold her population of millions together as a unit?

These were some of the questions that ran through the minds of the service man as he wallowed in the mud of the trench or toiled at monotonous drill in the training camp. He had thought of other things, of course, and wondered how the war would affect his personal fortunes. But in the main, the whole course of thought had changed him; he was no longer the irresponsible youth who took his country and government as a matter-of-fact thing. He had returned firm in the belief that he was a part of a great and fine government; that, since he, with several million young Americans, constituted a certain power of the government in war, surely he must exert a certain power in peace. Likewise he must serve his country in peace, for the country that is good enough to fight for and die for, ought to be good enough to live for. It was young men with these thoughts in mind who gathered at Omaha to express themselves through the vehicle of the American Legion State Convention.

The meeting was called to order by President John G. Maher at 10 a. m., October 10, 1919, in the Council Chamber of the City Hall. A short address of welcome was made by Acting Mayor Ure and the remainder of the morning was given over to the usual activities incident to the organization of a convention. During the afternoon

session an address was made by Hon. Samuel R. McKelvie, Governor of Nebraska.

"I have listened to the reading of the preamble which enunciates the purposes of your organization," said the Governor in the course of his address, "and I do not think I have ever heard a pronouncement which seemed so filled with the spirit and purpose of genuine Americanism as that. I anticipate for your organization a very great degree of progress and success. It is an organization that can be of a very unusual amount of worth while service to the state and the nation. I feel that this is the time now that our country has saved the world, to begin to think of saving ourselves. It seems certain that we must return, if we have departed from any of the principles of our government, to a thorough understanding of and devoted allegiance to the principles of the government through which our country has lived and prospered for one hundred and thirty-one years. These are serious times. These are the times when we are called upon to settle, in a peaceful way, questions that are no less essential, no less important than the questions that confronted us during the great war. In fact, the battles that were fought by you, the service that you rendered throughout those trying hours, was intended as a guarantee to the perpetuation of those principles of the war that were enunciated by our fathers and that have made it possible for us to attain the incomparable position that we have as a nation."

Since the state organization of the Legion was yet temporary, one of the first steps to be taken by this body was the adoption of a constitution. However, it was soon found that the department constitution must necessarily conform to the national constitution and as the national convention was not to be held until Armistice day, that action would have to be postponed. Therefore it was decided that the Department Executive Committee should be authorized to appoint a sub-committee to draft such a document as soon as the national meeting was over, and that such draft should be submitted to all the posts organized at the time for their action. This was duly done later in the year. Guy Chambers of Lincoln, was appointed the chairman of the sub-committee. Mr. Chambers, Hird Stryker of Omaha, E. K. Hammond of Omaha, and Frank Warner of Norfolk, met at Lincoln in November, drafted the first Department constitution, and put it in the hands of the Department Executive Committee. This body approved the same and instructed the Department Adjutant to submit it to the posts. It was ratified by the necessary two-thirds of the posts in the Department.

The resolutions passed by this convention are interesting. The stand taken at this time on most of the important issues shows that a great deal of thought was given to these matters and that action was not taken until it was certain that the majority favored it. Most important of all were the ideals expressed regarding law and order,

which have had a very important bearing on the activities of the Legion ever since. "The American Legion of the State of Nebraska", reads the resolution, "desires to state clearly to the public that it stands squarely for the enforcement of law and order and the maintenance of American institutions and liberties as fought for in 1776, guaranteed and enunciated in the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Nebraska, and maintained by the blood of our forefathers and our brothers-in-arms who now lie in foreign graves. . . ."

Another resolution that later came to play a very important part in the history of Nebraska dealt with the teaching of the English language. The record of the American Legion's part in this cause will be considered later in this work, but here was the first expression made by the veterans of Nebraska:

"WHEREAS, the American Legion stands for one hundred percent Americanism and for the intelligent exercise of the rights and duties of American citizenship, and,

"WHEREAS, we believe that the presence of large numbers of citizens who are uneducated in the English language is detrimental to the welfare of the United States, affording in our country a fertile opportunity for the development of many of the social disorders that now threaten the nations of Europe, therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED, That this convention pledge its support to the efforts now being made to

insure that the education of American children in all schools be conducted in the English language."

Another expression that was passed amid great cheering and intense feeling had to do with those aliens who, when America entered the war, withdrew their first citizenship papers in order to escape the duties of a citizen. "Be it resolved," reads this resolution, "that the American Legion of Nebraska urges Congress to enact immediately a law to send those aliens, who withdrew their first papers, back to the country from which they came. The country in which we live and for which we are willing to fight is good enough for us, but this country in which they have lived and prospered, yet were unwilling to fight for, is too good for them."

One of the charges that has been made against the American Legion both nationally and in the state of Nebraska was that the organization was fostered by some political party. While the action taken at the St. Louis Caucus should have put these rumors definitely to rest, yet certain organizations and individuals who were jealous of the Legion and feared its power, continued to spread propaganda designed to lead the people of Nebraska to believe that the veterans had organized purely as a political machine for selfish purposes. It was imperative that a declaration of principles on this issue be made public at this time, therefore the following resolution was unanimously passed and given wide publicity:

"WHEREAS, the principles upon which the

American Legion was founded require its absolute separation from partisan politics, and from the political fortunes of any individual, whether a member or non-member of the American Legion, and,

"WHEREAS, it is the duty as a citizen of every active member of the American Legion to take an active part in the solution of the grave social, economic and political questions of the present hour;

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Legion of Nebraska encourage its members to take an active part in public affairs and in the discussion of the public problems which can be settled only through political channels; but that they be required to do so as individuals and not as members of the American Legion, and that any attempt to use the American Legion or to influence any Post thereof, in favor of any political party or candidate for political office, be cause for expulsion from the Legion and forfeiture of office therein."

A rather warm argument developed concerning the Legion's stand on universal military training, which was a national issue at the time. Most of the delegates seemed agreed that the military training was of great value to the young men of the country, but some of them were afraid that the system might get away from the government. The war had left a good many veterans somewhat bitter toward a centralized military machine with the power left to a general staff, and while they

avored the fundamentals of military training being taught universally, they did not want to make any endorsement of a proposition that might give a small group of officers an opportunity to militarize the nation. After considerable debate a resolution embracing the following ideas was adopted:

"The American Legion of Nebraska favors, as the backbone of a system of national defense, based on the democratic principle of the obligation of every citizen to defend his country in time of peril, a system of universal military training. We believe the details of such a system should be left to Congress; but we favor such control thereof as will make military training a factor in the Americanization of the youth of the land; make the obligation to serve inseparable from the privileges of citizenship; and insure the removal of the Civilian Army thus created from every taint of militarism, and from complete control of any exclusively military organization."

Considerable other action was taken by this meeting, besides the working out of the many details incident to the building of a great organization. The convention declared itself against the "conscientious objector" who had refused to serve during the war and who had subsequently been restored to an honorable status as a citizen and discharged with the privileges accorded the men who served. It demanded that the court-martial system of the United States Army be revised and humanized; it expressed itself as in

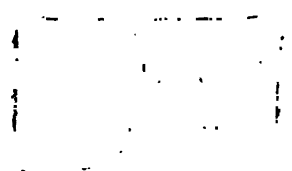
favor of such compensation as would enable the returned service man to rehabilitate himself and obtain a home. They recognized their obligation to their older comrades of previous wars and urged close cooperation between the American Legion and the veteran organizations of other wars. They took up the fight for disabled men, many of whom had been discharged from the service and left in deplorable circumstances, and they urged Congress to take immediate steps to enact legislation that would give these men just consideration and assistance.

Next in importance to the declaration of principles came the organization work. It was certain at this time that Nebraska would be designated as a "department" of the American Legion and would necessarily need a state executive headquarters and state officers to carry on the work. While the organization had taken a flying start and had accomplished much within a few weeks, it would be necessary to establish many more posts throughout the state. Likewise it would be necessary for the organization to acquaint all service men and the public with its purposes and ideals and just what place in American life it would take. Besides the election of state officers for the coming year and the opening of an executive headquarters, it would also be necessary to send delegates to the first national convention which was to take place at Minneapolis on the following Armistice day.

Late on the second day the election of Depart-



Edward P. McDermott
National Executive Committeeman (1919-21)



ment Officers took place. Every delegate present seemed to realize that the success of the organization for the next decade depended greatly upon the ability and standing of the man who would head it for the first year. In a great measure, this man would be called upon to formulate policies that would have a lasting influence on the future of the Legion. Likewise, the public would measure the Legion by the man who was to be its first mouthpiece.

When it came time for the election, the majority of delegates had settled on Earl M. Cline, of Nebraska City. Cline was an outstanding candidate. He had served with distinction in the 89th Division, and had come out of the service with numerous soldier friends. He had been wounded at St. Mihiel, and had risen to the rank of Captain. He also had a wide acquaintance throughout the state, having been a well-known educator, and had since become prominent as an attorney. He had a remarkable ability as a public speaker, and was an ardent advocate of plain, old-fashioned Americanism. He was deliberate in his judgment, and, in every way, splendidly qualified to head the new organization that needed a steady hand at the helm. Cline was duly elected to direct the fortunes of the American Legion of Nebraska for 1920.

The following officers were also elected to serve with the new Commander: Frank A. Warner, Commander of the Norfolk post as Vice Commander; Frank S. Perkins, of Fremont as Treas-

urer; and Edward P. McDermott, Commander of the Buffalo County Post as the state representative on the national committee. The Executive Committee was made up of two representatives from each Congressional district and the following were selected:

George Gilligan, Lincoln
J. M. Holmes, Nebraska City
William Ritchie, Jr., Omaha
Clinton Brome, Omaha
Dan R. Francis, Schuyler
E. J. Moyer, Madison
J. Ed. C. Fisher, Beatrice
Edward Goodrich, Fairbury
Harold Prince, Grand Island
Chas. H. Epperson, Jr., Clay Center
J. M. Fitzgerald, Kearney
Paul Greusel, Kimball

Shortly after the convention, Commander Cline appointed the writer, then serving as Commander of the Lincoln Post, as Department Adjutant, and a state headquarters was immediately opened at Lincoln. A suite of three rooms were obtained at 313-314 Richards Block. A day or so later a second-hand desk was purchased, a typewriter borrowed, and thus were opened the first Executive offices of the American Legion of Nebraska.

FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Nomination Committee

Ed. P. McDermott, Kearney
Charles McLaughlin, Omaha
Eugene B. Cain, Falls City
E. J. Moyer, Madison
E. S. Goodrich, Fairbury
Russell Rohrer, Hastings
I. L. Pindell, Sidney

Time and Place Committee

John Lavin, Chairman
H. J. Pinkett, Omaha
E. L. Mahlin, Fremont
Chas. Shores, Utica
W. P. Bemis, Grand Island
Merle Young, Scottsbluff

Finance Committee

Ed. Goodrich, Chairman, Fairbury
LeRoy Reif, Syracuse
Robert Burns, Omaha
M. J. Ryan, Pender
J. Shimerda, Wilbur
H. L. Doty, Hastings
V. W. Jenkins, Hemingford

Resolution Committee

William Ritchie, Jr., Chairman, Omaha
Aubrey Duxbury, Plattsmouth
Anan Raymond, Omaha
Lucian Stark, Hartington
L. Stanley, Aurora
C. H. Epperson, Jr., Clay Center
Ed P. McDermott, Kearney

Constitution and By-Laws Committee

Clinton Brome, Chairman, Omaha

I. Mowry, Tecumseh

R. J. Madden, Omaha

F. C. Radke, Hartington

Charles Brewster, Beatrice

H. A. Prince, Grand Island

E. L. Meyer, Alliance

CHAPTER V

The Cline Administration

On November 10, 11 and 12, 1919, just a month after the Omaha state convention of the Nebraska American Legion, the first great national convention of the American Legion was held at Minneapolis, Minnesota. This meeting brought together the delegates of the A. E. F. caucus and the St. Louis meeting, as well as hundreds of Legion representatives from every state in the Union.

This convention was a great event. It brought the two large groups of World War veterans to a common understanding. It was conclusive evidence that the American Legion had forged ahead of all rival societies and was destined to be the great veteran organization of the world war—the Grand Army of the Republic of the future. Anyone who attended the meeting at any time during the three days could easily see that this society had already grown to be a mighty force in America. Posts had sprung up in nearly every community throughout the country almost over night; thousands of service men in every walk of life had become members and were keenly interested in the development of the organization.

Nebraska sent twelve delegates and twelve alternates to Minneapolis and took a prominent part in the proceedings. Those resolutions endorsed by the state convention were duly presented and the delegation worked earnestly in getting favor-

able action taken on them. Each state was allowed a member on each convention committee, and the Nebraska delegation held daily conferences so that all members would be informed regarding the convention activities and plans.

The proceedings of the national convention show that Dr. R. G. Cressman, of Hastings, served on the Credentials Committee; Earl Cline of Nebraska City, on the Rules Committee; Alfred L. Larrivee, of Lincoln on the Emblem Committee; Allan A. Tukey of Omaha, on Eligibility; R. A. Canady of Bridgeport, on Auxiliaries; Guy C. Chambers of Lincoln, on Political Restrictions; J. T. Bressler, Jr., of Wayne, on Finance; Hird Stryker of Omaha, on Constitution and Organization; T. J. McGuire of Omaha, on Legislation; E. E. Kiplinger of Omaha, on Place of Next Meeting; J. R. Sullivan on Post Activities and Memorials; J. M. Young on Employment; E. K. Hammond of Omaha, on War Risk Insurance; John A. Lawler, of Hastings, on Beneficial Legislation; Frank A. Warner of Norfolk, on Military Policies; and Dr. E. C. Henry of Omaha, on Americanization.

While the Nebraska delegation did not go to the convention expecting to have one of its members selected as a national officer, nevertheless the opportunity presented itself and Allan A. Tukey of Omaha, was offered as a candidate for the office of National Vice Commander. He was elected by a large majority.

The high points of the first national convention were the adoption of a constitution for the Legion,

the determining of the eligibility to the organization, the recognizing of a Women's Auxiliary, the selection of Indianapolis, Indiana, as the permanent headquarters for the national organization, and the passing of various resolutions setting forth the position of the organization on beneficial legislation, Americanization, punishment of alien enemies, conscientious objectors, service slackers and persons convicted of violation of the Draft Law.

As soon as the national convention was over, Commander Cline and his fellow officers returned home to Nebraska to begin in earnest the work for the year. It was felt that the organization work must necessarily be given first consideration and posts established in every community in the state. Likewise a means of acquainting the public with the Legion would have to be developed and well-directed publicity furnished to newspapers, news agencies and public speakers. A service bureau must be established and maintained for the many veterans who needed assistance in getting their government claims properly adjusted. A Department constitution must be prepared and submitted to the posts for ratification; legislation to present to the next session of the state legislature must be recommended; efforts must be made to carry out the convention instructions regarding Americanization, the building of war memorials, and other important public problems.

Therefore, the first task to be taken up was

the organization of additional posts and the enrollment of members. It was felt by Commander Cline and his associates that the most important work for the year would be to increase the membership. Nebraska had furnished approximately 55,000 men for military and naval service, of whom nearly 50,000 would be eligible to join the American Legion. It would be vitally important to enroll at least a goodly percentage of these in order to keep other organizations from getting a foothold and interfering with the plans of the Legion. At the time of the convention at Omaha, about 8,000 names were on the membership rolls of the 110 posts then organized. It was decided that at least 20,000 members must be secured and a Legion post established in every town that had a population of five hundred or more if the American Legion were to live and accomplish the work it had before it.

This program was an ambitious one to be carried out within one year, and, in order to put it over, would require a great amount of publicity and a strong bureau of public speakers. A department for the dissemination of information regarding the Legion was established early in 1920. The publicity created by this department was divided into two classes: (a) Information regarding the American Legion that would be of interest to service persons, and (b) information regarding the American Legion that would be of interest to the public at large. News stories ready for the printer were prepared and sent to



Earl M. Cline
Department Commander (1920)

the newspapers throughout the state. Posts were urged to establish Legion news columns in their local newspapers. A weekly bulletin service was put into use and all posts kept in close touch with the activities of the state and national organizations. During the early months of the year and during the time the posts were busy collecting dues, it was felt that some means should be provided whereby the department officers could get in direct contact with the thousands of service men throughout the state who knew little, if anything, about the American Legion. Therefore a newspaper known as "The Nebraska Legion News" was published for five months and over 100,000 copies of the publication scattered over the department.

At the same time a Speaker's Bureau was established and a list of public speakers sent to the posts. These Legion representatives appeared at many gatherings in communities throughout the state and told the story of the American Legion. Commander Cline visited many posts and spoke at length on the aims and purposes of the organization. Particularly good work was accomplished in this respect by Vice Commander Frank A. Warner, of Norfolk, who neglected his personal affairs to visit many communities in the northeastern section of the department where he carried the Legion message. Meritorious service was also rendered by Department Chaplain Harold C. Capsey, of Lincoln, whom Commander Cline appointed following the Minneapolis convention

where it was decided that each department should have such an officer.

In due time this steady flow of well-directed publicity began to bring results. The newspaper editors throughout the state took very kindly to the new veteran organization and gave very liberally of their space. Some of these editors even went so far as to organize posts for the boys in their communities, and helped the veterans get the necessary funds to carry on the work. The posts soon began to report new members joining their units by the hundreds, and shortly the applications at State Headquarters began to be counted in the thousands. Likewise requests to organize local posts began to come into the state office, so that as many as five posts were chartered in a single day during the late summer of 1920. During the year over 19,000 members were enrolled and the posts increased from 110 to 270. Within six months time the Nebraska American Legion had been made into the largest veteran organization in the state.

The second phase of work carried on by Commander Cline was the welfare work among service men. A service bureau was opened at the state office and, in cooperation with a national bureau, hundreds of claims of every kind were handled for all service men regardless of whether or not they were affiliated with the Legion. Myron D. Noble was appointed director of this department and, in cooperation with the workers at State Headquarters, these claims were given

prompt attention and every effort was made to get these matters settled to the entire satisfaction of both the government and the claimant. At this time the governmental agencies charged with this work were not properly organized, nor did they have the authority or funds to care for the disabled and sick veterans. It seemed that Congress had forgotten the man who had returned from the battlefield broken in body and spirit. Hundreds—yes, thousands—of these unfortunate men were unable to support themselves and were yet unable to get assistance from the government. Realizing the serious situation, the American Legion was not slow to go to the aid of these men who had paid so dearly for peace. The national organization of the American Legion had recommended badly needed legislation and had had the same introduced in Congress. This was known as the "Sweet Bill", but the legislation had met with endless delay. In an effort to bring before Congress the serious situation that confronted the disabled, National Commander D'Olier asked that representatives from each Department of the Legion gather at Washington and appear before the lawmakers. Commander Cline delegated T. J. McGuire of Omaha, who was a Legionnaire of much force and ability and who had made a thorough study of this problem, to represent Nebraska at this important conference. Mr. McGuire went to Washington and remained right there with some fifty others until the Sweet Bill was passed and the Bureau of War Risk reorganized.

The third goal of Commander Cline was to organize a Woman's Auxiliary for the Legion. The national convention had authorized each Department to issue a charter to each post, allowing the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of Legion men to form an auxiliary organization to help carry on the work of the Legion. The Nebraska Commander was not slow to see the value of such an auxiliary. The patriotic women of the state had played a very important part in helping win the war, and they could play an equally important part in helping the Legion to carry out its great program of Americanization and service to the veterans. Commander Cline made W. P. Bemis, of Grand Island, the Chairman of a committee charged with this work, and by August 11, 1920, thirty-three Auxiliary units had been organized and nearly 800 Nebraska women enrolled in the society.

At all times during his administration, Commander Cline kept in close touch with his Department Executive Committee and placed all important problems before them. This committee was very faithful and promptly responded to the call of the Commander. In order to carry out the instructions of a large convention, it is always necessary to appoint a number of sub-committees to investigate and make recommendations on specific matters. Noteworthy among these committees for 1920 were the Legislative Committee, made up of Bernard G. Westover of Lincoln, Chairman, John A. Lawlor of Hastings, Robert G.

Fuhrman of Pender, and Earl Meyer of Alliance; the Americanization Committee with Dr. E. C. Henry of Omaha as Chairman, and Robert G. Simmons of Scottsbluff, and Walter L. Anderson of Lincoln. A Memorial Committee, an Intelligence Committee and a Constitutional Committee were also appointed and given specific tasks to do. All of these committees took a great deal of interest in their work and rendered valuable service to the organization.

In summing up the achievements of Commander Cline and his associates in their administration, one at once notes that the outstanding feature of their service was organization work. Beginning with a small group of local units none too well organized as yet, Cline welded them into a great statewide system of posts that reached into every community of the state. He brought into the organization hundreds of veterans of every race, creed and station in life—nineteen thousand men with a common purpose; to better their community, state and nation, and to serve in peace as they had served in war. Cline gave the Nebraska Legion stability; he made it an organization that was respected and admired by the public at large. In the course of a year, he had builded on the foundation laid by his predecessors a splendid organization that took its place as a great power in the Commonwealth and one that was destined to play an important part in the history of the state.

CHAPTER VI

The Second Annual Convention

Five hundred World War veterans were sitting in a Chautauqua pavillion, listening to a convention report. Most of these men were young, with here and there a head of gray hair to be seen. A look of keen interest was on every face; five hundrd pairs of eyes were focused on the man who was reading the report.

It was an interesting study, those five hundred countenances. The drawn and haggard faces and melancholy eyes that were always so evident in war days were gone. A new light had come into each pair of eyes and each countenance beamed with kindly interest. It now had been two years since the end of the war, and time had wrought a remarkable change. The old days of privation and anxiety had been replaced by the more comfortable and pleasant days of peace. Before these men now was the dawn of a new era wherein they might serve their country in a peaceful way and partake of its opportunities. On each face was a look of satisfaction—an expression that can come only to those who have performed a great duty to the best of their ability.

"The first consideration of the American Legion," read the man on the platform, "is the perpetuation of the memory of those comrades who made the supreme sacrifice in response to their country's call. Though their voices are silenced

by death, they must ever live in the hearts of their comrades and compatriots, as a magnificent example of the last full measure of devotion. Therefore be it resolved that the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, make it a paramount duty to see that proper and fitting honors are paid our dead at all times; that their graves be properly and suitably marked; and all things possible be done to impress upon all our people that the country for which these men died must be handed down to coming generations with its honor unstained".

A hush fell over the convention. Almost to a man, the five hundred faces became reminiscent. Perhaps their thoughts had gone back to their experiences in 1918. Some no doubt recalled a scene at Chateau-Thierry or St. Mihiel or in the Argonne where men wallowed in mud amid the thundering of battle, while about them many comrades lay with mortal wounds. Perchance some recalled scenes in the training camps and hospitals where companions were stricken down by disease. There came a look in the eyes of every man that seemed to say, "I understand, I understand".

Then someone rose and addressed the Chair.

"Mr. Commander," he said, "let us stand for two minutes in silent prayer in reverence to those buddies who are not with us today."

The gavel of the Commander sounded and five hundred of Nebraska's young fighting men rose to their feet. They stood with bowed heads, in loving remembrance of those comrades who paid

the great price for righteousness and liberty,
while in every heart must have echoed the words
of McCrae,

“When from failing hands we throw the
torch to you,
Be yours to hold it high;
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep though poppies grow
in Flanders’ field”.

* * * * *

There you have a scene from the Second Annual Convention of the Nebraska Legion, held at Hastings, Nebraska, on August 26, 27 and 29, 1920. This picture has been brought before the reader that he may better understand and appreciate the spirit of the American Legion. Let us presume that there had been no World War and that these five hundred men had never answered the call of their country. Would it have been possible to get an expression like that? Would they have paused in their deliberations to offer a prayer for those who gave all that America might live? Would they have pledged themselves ever to devote their efforts to see that the graves of fallen defenders would be marked and made patriotic shrines for coming generations? Would they make it their business to see that “the country for which these men died must be handed down to coming generations with its honor unstained”? Would they have associ-

ated themselves for God and Country, "to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy?"

This is one of the answers to the query: Why the American Legion? The second convention at Hastings in 1920 was the first opportunity for the Nebraska veterans to answer the question. Up until that time they had been too busy with organization work to heed the more serious purposes of the society. One must first build the temple before he can make use of it. Each post of the Nebraska American Legion had been so busy building its part of the structure, it had been as yet unable to admire its beauty or measure its value. But now that the delegates from the several posts had assembled again and the house was in order, they set to work toward the realization of the ideals for which the organization had been founded.

The convention was in session three days. The Mayor of Hastings, Hon. L. B. Stiner, welcomed the delegates to his city, and other short addresses were made by the Governor of Nebraska, Hon. Samuel R. McKelvie; W. H. Presson, then Depart-

ment Commander of the G. A. R.; and Otto W. Meier, then Department Commander of the United Spanish War Veterans. On the second day, the convention entertained Franklin D'Olier, National Commander of the American Legion during 1920, who later addressed the gathering.

An amusing incident occurred in the visit of D'Olier that proved very disconcerting to the Reception Committee of the Hastings post. Commander D'Olier was scheduled to arrive at Hastings at a certain hour, and a message received from Omaha reassured the committee that he would arrive as previously planned. However, when the train came, Mr. D'Olier did not appear. The Committee searched the railroad station and button-holed every traveler that resembled the National Officer, but they could not find him. As it was getting late, they returned to the hotel and retired. About two o'clock in the morning, Commander Cline was awakened by someone knocking at his door. Opening it, he found the National Commander looking for "someone with a Legion button". It seemed there was a new porter in charge of the Pullman car in which the Commander-in-Chief was riding, and he became confused and put Mr. D'Olier and his secretary off at Harvard, which is a small town about twenty miles from Hastings. D'Olier did not discover his predicament until after the train had pulled out, and so had to wait until the next train which was due four hours later.

Mr. D'Olier, in addressing the Convention, said:

"In little over a year's time a mere dream and idea of a few has developed into a big organization of 9,700 posts and a membership of well over a million. Such a thing has never before been known in this country, and it could not have been accomplished but for the reason that the ideals of the American Legion are absolutely right.

"You men perhaps do not fully appreciate the fact that in a very few years the ex-service men are going to run this country. They are going to do it not merely because they are ex-service men, but because, in order to get into the service, they were picked men—physically, mentally and morally; and being picked men, plus their service, they are unquestionably going to be the leading men in business, in all the professions, and in politics.

"The American Legion is the only organization in this country that represents every single element in the country; the American Legion is the nearest approach to an organization of public opinion, representing as public opinion does every single element of the country. And the closer the American Legion sticks to public opinion, the more successful it will be in serving our country and in serving our comrades. You know, public opinion does not often speak but when it does speak it speaks with authority. And whenever the American Legion speaks with that authority of public opinion behind it, it will speak in such a way it can be heard.

"You men in Nebraska deserve the greatest credit for the success of the American Legion here. You have been successful for two reasons; you have caught the spirit of the organization and your membership has been successful because you have been careful in the selection of your leaders.

"My message to you today is that just exactly as we stick together in the service we must stick together now, in order that we may serve our country and look after the welfare of our comrades. Let us stick together and see to it that the American Legion has that unselfish leadership necessary to make it the great force it can be; and as we stuck together in the service, let us stick together in our organization to the end that the American Legion may really continue to serve our country and our comrades."

The second and third days of the convention were given over to the business of the organization. The Legislative Committee, appointed by Commander Cline early in the year, made its recommendations to the delegates, and these were carefully considered. The State Legislature was to meet the following winter and it was imperative that the Legion have definite recommendations regarding the needs of service men to offer that body. The more important suggestions of this committee which were adopted were as follows:

"Recommended that the American Legion of Nebraska request the enactment of a law which

would provide for ex-service men long-time loans at a low rate of interest for the purpose of purchasing farms and city homes.

"Recommended that the Legion endeavor to secure legislation to the end that ex-service persons seeking official public appointments be given preference.

"Recommended that the Legion secure amendments to existing statutes so that benefits conferred on veterans of other wars would be applicable to world war veterans.

"Recommended that the Legion request the enactment of legislation permitting boxing."

A considerable number of resolutions defining the policies of the organization were also favorably acted upon. The convention endorsed the Americanization work that had been carried on during the administration of Commander Cline. It also endorsed a bill then pending before Congress which was known as the Adjusted Compensation Act, and it voiced strenuous objection to the action of those Government Officials who allowed the notorious war slacker, Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, to escape from prison. A particularly strong sentiment was expressed regarding draft evaders and conscientious objectors. It seems that many of these culprits were given their freedom immediately following the close of the war, and, in some cases, given benefits equal to those received by honorably discharged service men. The resolution reads:

"WHEREAS, executive clemency has been extended to many convicted violators of the draft and sedition laws, and no public investigation has been held, and thereby many who in time of war escaped their obligations as citizens and have practically gone unpunished, and

"WHEREAS, many draft evaders are now at large in the country, and many individuals who made false and fraudulent claims to exemption boards for the purpose of receiving a deferred classification in the draft, are not being prosecuted for their violation of the law,

"BE IT RESOLVED, That we demand that no person convicted and now serving sentence because of violation of the draft or sedition laws be pardoned or his sentence materially reduced without the fullest public investigation, and that we condemn the secretive methods of turning loose upon the public those who in time of war evaded their duties; and,

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we demand that the authorities prosecute with vigor all those who evaded the draft, and violated the sedition laws; and that they be adequately sentenced if found guilty; and that pardons be refused to them; and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we request the members of Congress from Ne-

braska to favor the enactment of more suitable legislation covering draft and service evaders of the future; and to appoint a committee to investigate the pernicious granting of pardons, hereinbefore mentioned, so that full publicity may be given to that practice."

The election of officers took place on the last day of the meeting, and several lively contests were staged. The election of a Department Commander was the most interesting to the delegates. The Nebraska Legion had now become one of the large organizations of the state, and considerable honor was attached to the office of Commander. Likewise this office was the most important one within the gift of the convention, and one that played a great part in the ultimate success of the association.

After a careful canvass of the delegates, attention was centered on a young man who was a member of the Scottsbluff Legion post, which was situated in the extreme western part of the state. He had a very attractive personality and soon made friends with many delegations. He had been active in Legion affairs from the beginning of the organization, and was highly recommended by his comrades from the west. This was no other than Robert G. Simmons, better known as "Bob", who was selected to head the Nebraska Legion for 1922.

The convention closed with a presentation of a beautiful watch to Commander Cline for the splen-

did service he had rendered the American Legion. Perhaps these words of Edward P. McDermott, who made the presentation, will best express the high esteem the twenty thousand Nebraska Legion men held for their retiring Commander:

"I have been delegated on behalf of the many Legion posts here represented," said Mr. McDermott," to say something at this time in reference to our retiring Commander. Last year in the annual convention at Omaha you remember that Earl M. Cline, of Nebraska City, was the unanimous choice of that convention. He has now served his tour of duty with honor and with distinction, and it is altogether fitting at this time that we as his comrades present him with something as a token of our esteem.

"Mr. Commander, the duty that has been delegated to me is very pleasing indeed. You will always be known to us as our first Commander. The road over which you have taken us has been filled with many dangerous shell-holes. How well you have performed your duty in all respects is testimony received on all sides at all times. I, therefore, on behalf of your comrades and mine, present to you a gold watch as a token of their esteem and affection.

"Mr. Commander, always keep that watch, for within its case is wrapped up all the love and affection and esteem that we all feel for you."

The other officers selected to serve with Commander Simmons were as follows:

Edward F. Goodrich, Fairbury, 1st Vice Commander.

John T. Bressler, Jr., Wayne, 2nd Vice Commander.

Lyman Wheeler, Omaha, 3rd Vice Commander.

Frank S. Perkins, Fremont, Finance Officer.

Frank B. O'Connell, Lincoln, Adjutant.

Charles R. Tyner, Hastings, Chaplain.

Department Executive Committee:

E. B. Chappell, Lincoln.

Varro Tyler, Nebraska City.

William Ritchie, Jr., Omaha.

John Hopkins, Omaha.

H. C. Cusack, North Bend.

C. A. Orr, Wayne.

Marion Shaw, David City.

L. H. Laughlin, Beatrice.

R. G. Cressman, Hastings.

C. M. Sherwood, Red Cloud.

J. B. Miller, Alliance.

J. M. Fitzgerald, Kearney.

National Executive Committeeman :

Ed. P. McDermott, Kearney.

CHAPTER VII

Simmons and His Policies

Immediately after the close of the Second Annual Convention Commander Simmons called together his fellow officers to make plans for the year. It was the unanimous opinion of those officers present that an elaborate program should be laid out and then closely followed during the administration. After considerable study of the needs of the organization, it was decided that the four principal objectives for 1921 should be:

The prosecution of the legislative program recommended by the convention.

The organizing of an American Legion Woman's Auxiliary.

The coordination of the various local posts in the department.

The enrollment of new members and the holding of those already affiliated with the organization.

The first task was the most important one with which Commander Simmons had to deal. The State Legislature was scheduled to meet during the coming winter, and it was necessary for the Legion to promulgate and recommend such legislation as might be desired by the service men of the state. A number of other states had already enacted legislation giving their veterans cash gratuities or benefits of similar kind and there was quite a desire on the part of loyal citizens

of Nebraska to do the same. Just what assistance was to be given must be decided by the veterans themselves, through their great society, the American Legion.

It will be remembered that the Hastings convention suggested that the Department Officers request the enactment of legislation which would provide service persons with long-time loans at a low rate of interest for the purpose of purchasing farms and urban homes. Thereupon Commander Simmons appointed a Legislative Committee, consisting of T. J. McGuire, Omaha, Chairman; E. B. Chappell, Lincoln; B. G. Westover, Lincoln; and Marcus L. Poteet, Lincoln. This committee set to work at once investigating the legislation that had been passed by other states in an effort to get an act in Nebraska that would be practical and best for the veteran. After an exhaustive search they found few measures to their liking. Nearly all such provisions which aimed to help the veteran obtain a farm or home required a great revolving fund which ran into millions of dollars. The great problem that immediately confronted this committee was ways and means of raising such a fund. The Nebraska constitution did not permit the state authorities to float bonds for such a proposition. Neither was it possible to raise such an amount as would be necessary through the regular channels of taxation, since these had already reached the point where the tax-payers were beginning to rebel. And, lastly, no one could devise safeguards

that would keep the veteran from becoming the victim of the speculator and profiteer.

The committee continued its investigations, however, right up to the day the Legislature had convened and it became time to make their recommendations. But it was of no avail. They had found not a single piece of legislation in any state that appealed to them, nor had they been able to solve the many problems that would be incident to the passage of such a measure.

Just a short time before the date fixed when no more bills could be introduced in the State Legislature, Commander Simmons discovered an act that had been passed by the Legislature of Connecticut in 1919. After studying it for a short time, he decided that it was a better and more constructive measure than any that had come to his attention. It could be put into operation in a state with a comparatively small population without a great deal of distress to the tax-payer, and at the same time it provided means of taking care of needy veterans at the time when they needed it most. And in the end, it paid greater dividends to the service man than an act providing for a cash bonus.

The Department Commander referred the bill to his committee for their consideration. The recommendations reached this group the day prior to the "deadline" for new bills that might be placed in the legislative hopper. No time must be lost, and it was imperative that quick action be had if the 1921 session of the Legislature was



Robert G. Simmons
Department Commander (1921)

1940

to assist the returned service man. Therefore, the writer summoned the Lincoln members of the Legislative Committee, and Messrs. Westover and Chappell hurried to State Headquarters. These members of the committee were immediately impressed with the practicability of this sort of legislation, and both felt that it was just the measure needed to relieve the distress among the service men which was most acute at the time. And furthermore, it provided means of caring for those needy persons who were not compensable by the Federal Government, the number of whom would increase rapidly as the years went by.

The Connecticut act was satisfactory in principle but it called for machinery in its administration which the Nebraska Legislative Committee did not think advisable. Therefore it became necessary to write a new act so that it could be introduced in the Legislature the next day. Messrs. Westover, Chappell and the writer went to the law offices of Mr. Chappell and spent most of the night studying the proposition. Early in the morning of the final day of grace, the Nebraska Emergency Fund Act was written. It came into being under the pressure of time almost as great as that of war, yet the measure was ultimately enacted into law with only slight changes of phraseology.

This act was altogether different from that recommended by the convention, yet it met with immediate favor, and has since come to be known

as one of the best measures ever provided by any state. Frederick W. Galbraith, Jr., who was National Commander of the American Legion at the time of its passage, wrote that, to his mind, it was the most constructive piece of legislation that he had seen. Likewise, Legion men throughout the state have expressed their opinions that the act was the very best that could be devised.

As passed by the Legislature, this act directed the State Board of Educational Lands and Funds to purchase two million dollars worth of securities to hold in trust, and that the interest accumulation of same, amounting to approximately \$100,000.00 annually should be turned over to some veteran organization to use for the care and relief of World War veterans. It further provided that all money so paid such an organization must be expended by it in furnishing food, wearing apparel, medical or surgical aid, care or relief, or in bearing the funeral expenses of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, marines or nurses, or to the widows and dependent children of such persons. The State Board of Educational Lands and Funds designated the Nebraska American Legion to administer the fund, there being no other large organization of the kind in the state. In due course of time the Department Executive Committee of the Nebraska Legion appointed a sub-committee to have charge of this important work, which was to be handled exclusively through the local posts of the organiza-

tion. This committee consisted of J. Ed C. Fisher, of Beatrice, Chairman; Walter L. Anderson, of Lincoln; and E. K. Hurst, of Falls City. The Department Finance Officer and Adjutant were made exofficio members of the committee. The work accomplished by these three Legion men will always stand as a distinct credit to the organization and themselves. Thousands of needy Nebraska veterans were, in the course of time, taken care of and relieved from distress.

The second objective of the Legislative Committee during Commander Simmons' administration was the passage of a boxing bill. Ever since the World War veteran had returned from the service, he had been interested in seeing manly sports such as wrestling and boxing. Both of these pastimes had been features of his military training, and the average veteran had come to enjoy them very much. However, on his return home, he found that boxing was prohibited in his state entirely, while there were no laws governing wrestling, and the latter sport was outrageously exploited by promoters. Therefore, following out the wishes of the Second Annual Convention, the Legislative Committee, with the splendid help of Mr. John Hopkins, a well-known Legion member of Douglas County Post No. 1, succeeded in getting made into law an act which controlled both of these sports and took them out of the hands of those persons who had been exploiting them for financial gain. The American Legion made it plain that it had no desire

to commercialize the sport, and would not tolerate such a procedure, but that the organization wanted such legislation so its members might enjoy clean, wholesome exhibitions of physical prowess.

The 1921 session of the State Legislature passed another act of considerable importance. This was a measure incorporating by law the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, as well as a woman's auxiliary to the organization. This gave the organization an official standing, and brought the fact before the people of Nebraska that the American Legion had come to be the great organization of the World War, just as the Grand Army had duly become the great organization of the Civil War.

The second task of Commander Simmons and his associates was the organizing of a woman's auxiliary to the American Legion. During the war the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of service men had rendered great service in keeping the home fires burning. To them must go the credit for the splendid morale of the American army. Ever faithful, they remained at home providing little luxuries for the fighting men, and praying for the success of the great Democracy. Thousands of these women were still interested in the returned service man and his problems. They, too, desired to carry on in peace as in war, and to help make America a better place in which to live.

With this thought in mind, the first National

Convention of the American Legion had authorized the various departments to organize such an auxiliary, to be made up of the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of American Legion members and of those soldiers and sailors who had lost their lives during the war. This work was begun in Nebraska during Commander Cline's administration, but owing to the Legion posts still being in the process of organization themselves, only a few chapters were gotten under way. However, Commander Simmons felt that the time was ripe to get as many auxiliary chapters as possible, and an effort was made during his administration to enroll a large number of women. Mr. W. P. Bemis, of Grand Island, was made Chairman of a committee to look after this work. In the course of the year, over a hundred chapters were organized and nearly three thousand paid members enrolled. The writer was authorized by the Department Executive Committee to act as a temporary Secretary and to handle the affairs of the state organization until such time as it could take over its own machinery. Arrangements for a state convention of the American Legion Woman's Auxiliary were made and the women gathered at Fremont, on September 29, 30 and October 1, 1921, where they drafted a constitution, elected their own officers and formed a state organization. Thus began the great sister organization of the Nebraska American Legion.

The last two objectives of Commander Sim-

mons required a great deal of hard work and careful study. The Nebraska Legion had made a phenomenal growth in 1920, and it was a difficult task to retain the thousands of members who had joined the Legion. Yet Simmons and his associates not only held all the old members, but they added a few more, and increased the number of posts in the department from 270 to 310. He also succeeded in bringing the posts closer together and knitting them into a great state-wide organization, each post an integral part of the whole. The American Legion was, of course, a comparatively young organization, somewhat loosely constructed. It had hitched its wagon to a star, and its members had high and noble ideas, but sometimes, in their enthusiasm and zeal, they overlooked little problems which, unsolved, had a harmful effect on the organization. Noteworthy among these problems during Commander Simmons' administration was the failure of some posts to get good leaders and to realize the importance of getting public opinion back of them. Commander Simmons made a two-weeks trip over the state, studying the problems of posts and suggesting ways and means of overcoming these little matters that had proved to be obstacles in some communities. This trip proved very beneficial to both posts and the state officers and helped in bringing the Nebraska American Legion posts in closer contact with one another.

The service work, which is an important part

of American Legion activities, was carried on during the Simmons' administration as theretofore, and hundreds of claims of various kinds were adjusted. By-laws for the department were prepared and published, and a conference of Post Adjutants was held early in the year at which post problems were discussed. The State Headquarters were enlarged and a new system of collecting dues was installed, besides many other little improvements incident to the administration of a large organization.

The administration of Commander Simmons will always stand out for its accomplishments in the way of beneficial legislation for service persons. The best part of the year was devoted to this work, and no time nor expense was spared in pushing through those matters that were desired by the organization. Mr. Simmons gave unsparingly of his time, and directed his administration in such a way as not only to show great ability as a leader, but as to make himself thousands of loyal friends among Nebraska service men. Wherever he went he became known as a big, clean, honest commander, and each post of the Legion was better for his coming. He closed his administration at the Third Annual Convention, held at Fremont on September 29, 30 and October 1, 1921, at which his comrades expressed their admiration and appreciation of his excellent work by the presentation of a splendid testimonial.

In passing it is only fair that mention also be

made of the efficient work accomplished by Commander Simmons' Legislative Committee. Anyone who has ever had experience in legislative matters well knows the vast amount of work connected with the prosecution of such a program. The great burden of the Legion's legislation during 1921 fell to the Lincoln members of the committee who for several months were required to devote practically all their time to the cause. To Marcus L. Poteet, in particular, must go a great deal of credit for the Legion's success. Mr. Poteet left his private interests to take care of themselves and virtually "camped" at the State Capitol during the winter of 1921. At all times he kept in close touch with Legion measures. Having unbounded enthusiasm and unusual ability for this kind of work, and also having a wide acquaintance among the legislators, he was able to interest them in the problems of the Legion and to get their cooperation and support in getting the wants of the organization enacted into law. Mr. Poteet did especially fine work in handling the English language fight which is described in the following chapter. Every member of this committee seemed to realize that they had a big job before them, a task that meant much to the American Legion and its members. Perhaps no greater tribute can be paid to them than to say that they succeeded in putting through every piece of legislation that they backed. They asked for nothing that was not just and right, and justice and right always win out in the end.

CHAPTER VIII

The First Americanization Work

No organization can live and retain the respect and admiration of the American people unless it has high ideals and unselfish aspirations. It must not exist merely to serve its own members, but it must take some part in the affairs of the community, state and nation and place its resources behind those movements that are a benefit to humanity and make for a better civilization.

Early in its history the American Legion began to take a keen interest in public affairs. The officers of the Nebraska department soon realized that the people of their state expected this veteran organization to be a power for good government and intelligent patriotism, and that its value to the country at large would be measured by its activities and achievements in this respect. It was evident that the Legion must take up the patriotic work that, since the Civil War, had been carried on by the Grand Army of the Republic. The task which had been delegated to these veterans, now feeble with age, must be taken up by younger men who had their best years before them. This responsibility left by the older organization, was no small one. It meant that the American Legion must establish itself in every community and stand for intelligent and constructive citizenship; it meant that the state and national organizations must be ever watchful to see

that proper laws pertaining to Americanism were passed and that the principles and traditions for which men had fought and died were properly safeguarded and not molested by those seeking to satisfy selfish ambitions by personal aggrandizement.

An opportunity to serve the people of Nebraska in this way was not long in coming. Hardly had the organization been well founded in the state than its attention was called to a constructive piece of work in Americanization that meant much to every loyal citizen of the Commonwealth. Without any hesitancy whatever, the representatives of the Nebraska department of the Legion took up the fight on behalf of the use of the English language and began to champion its cause. This occurred in the winter of 1921 when the energy and resources of the great veteran association were placed behind those legislators who were trying to have important Americanization measures enacted into law.

Before we enter into a discussion of the merits of this legislation, however, it is well to pause and consider the situation that brought about the need for such laws in the state of Nebraska.

For many years prior to the World War, Nebraska had been a mecca for the immigrants who came to America from the rural districts of Europe in quest of opportunity. The fertile valley of the Platte and its tributaries, as yet but sparsely settled, attracted these peoples and large numbers of Germans, Russians, Bohemians, Scandi-

navians and Irish came to Nebraska to settle. The Germans, in particular, found these valleys to their liking, and thousands of them found their way across the Missouri River and into the eastern and southern parts of the state. Individuals brought families and families brought communities until just prior to the World War there were several hundred thousand Germans in Nebraska, part of whom were born across the sea and part of whom were born in America, but of German extraction.

For the most part, these people were excellent farmers and very thrifty. They knew the secret of making two blades of grass grow where but one had grown before and they soon became property owners and prospered. Unfortunately for themselves and the state of Nebraska, they settled in colonies which grew rapidly and which practically drove out all other nationalities. Thus great tracts of land fell into the possession of people either born in Germany or of Teutonic extraction, and some counties in the state were virtually dominated by this race.

Soon foreign-language newspapers sprang up and circulated among these farmers. Likewise the German minister of the gospel followed the immigrant to the new land and established his church in their colonies. And then, in due course of time, came the demand for German teachers and schools that would teach the German language, methods and ideals. All of this worked against the process of Americanization that

should have been taking place, and the great American melting pot became merely a figure of speech insofar as these people were concerned.

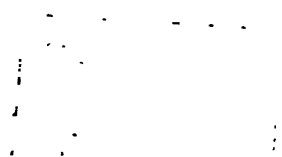
With so large a number of these German citizens in the Commonwealth who all had the privilege of voting, and yet were unable to understand the American system of government, unscrupulous politicians and newspaper editors were not slow to see the possibilities in this foreign-born electorate. Very soon the so-called German vote was playing a very conspicuous part in Nebraska politics. Most of these people meant well enough and wanted to be good Americans, but living in colonies where only their mother tongue was spoken and the German newspapers read, they did not have the opportunity to learn things American. Likewise, their children desired to be and do like other American children, but owing to educational laws which the clever politicians had succeeded in having enacted, these young Americans were brought up to speak the language of their fathers.

All of this attracted but scant attention until the World War came, and the American nation was called upon to save the world from the domination of the Central Powers. Then came the great test. The German citizen was placed in the uncomfortable position where he must choose between his mother country and the land of his adoption. Nebraska suddenly awoke to the fact that she had great colonies of foreign-born citizens within her boundaries, many of whom could



Officers for 1921

(1) V. E. Taylor, (2) Carrol A. Orr, (3) L. H. Laughlin, (4) Dr. R. G. Cressman, (5) M. A. Shaw, (6) E. B. Chappell, (7) Frank B. O'Connell, (8) J. M. Fitzgerald, (9) L. G. Wheeler, (10) E. S. Goodrich, (11) Frank S. Perkins, (12) H. C. Cusack, (13) John Hopkins, (14) John T. Bressler, Jr.



not speak English and never had been permitted to learn. Furthermore, thousands of these people read only the foreign-language newspaper, and it was very difficult for the American government to get its message to them. Especially was this true when the editors of such papers were sympathetic with the cause of the Central Powers. And when it came time for each community to send its quota of young men into the military service, the state was astounded to find that many of these young men, born and reared within its confines, were unable to speak the English language intelligently. For the most part, the great bulk of these German boys understood and were loyal to the cause of America notwithstanding the handicap under which they had been placed, but unfortunately there were many whose parents had been under the influence of the unscrupulous leaders and had never been able to break away from the mother country and fulfill the obligations of the loyal American citizen.

Such was the situation that faced the 1917 session of the Nebraska State Legislature which met at the State Capitol just prior to America's entry into the war. At that time there was a law on the statute books known as the "Mockett act", which required the school authorities in every high school, city school or metropolitan school in Nebraska to employ teachers and provide for the instruction of such modern European languages as might be requested by the parents or guardians of fifty pupils above the fourth grade. Though

America had not as yet declared war, it was believed that she would eventually, and some of the legislators were beginning to see the need for more thorough methods of Americanization. An attempt was made at this time to repeal this law, but it failed. Shortly after the close of the regular session of the Legislature, America entered the war and Governor Keith Neville called a special session to consider emergency measures. In his call he requested the repeal of the Mockett act, the danger of which by this time had become apparent to everyone, and the law was repealed this time.

In the meantime the various Councils of Defense and war workers had been making investigations and surveys throughout the state, in an effort to ascertain the conditions that prevailed insofar as Americanization and war activity was concerned. These bodies uncovered and brought to light conditions that were indeed startling to the native-born citizens. In something like twenty counties, it was found that public schools had been closed for months and the public funds that rightfully belonged to these institutions were being turned over by the trustees to maintain private schools whose principal business was the teaching of foreign languages. In nearly every instance where this state of affairs existed, there were found children of well-meaning parents who were compelled to go great distances to reach a public school where they might learn to speak the English language.

These startling disclosures created on the part of loyal citizens a lively demand for constructive legislation that would put an end to such practices and make it compulsory that all the youth of the state be taught the English language. The matter soon became a political issue, with every candidate for the 1919 session of the Legislature finding it necessary to declare himself on the question. The result of this campaign brought into the Legislature several men who were determined to place proper safeguards on the vital problem of citizenship. After a very bitter fight waged by certain German newspapers and organizations a measure known as the "Siman act" was passed and enacted into law. This measure prohibited the teaching of any foreign language to any pupil below the eighth grade. The law was subsequently attacked in the courts of the state but was held to be constitutional by the Supreme Court.

At this point the American Legion became interested in the fight which had been carried on during the war by the loyal citizens of the state. Walter L. Anderson, a prominent member of Lincoln Post No. 3, and a member of the Department Americanization Committee, called the attention of the first State Convention to the need of having an English language provision in the new state constitution that was to be written the following winter. The convention endorsed the idea, and Mr. Anderson who subsequently was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention held

in 1920, succeeded in getting the following provision made a part of the new constitution which was duly ratified:

"The English language is hereby declared to be the official language of this state, and all official proceedings, records and publications shall be in such language, and the common school branches shall be taught in said language in public, private, denominational and parochial schools."

Most citizens of Nebraska thought the decision of the Supreme Court and the clause in the new constitution would end the fight on the part of the foreign language interests. Very little attention was given the matter during the election in 1920, as no one expected that an effort would again be made to open the way for the teaching of these languages to children of tender years. But in this they were mistaken, for upon the convening of the 1921 session of the Legislature, it was found that the opponents of the Siman act were still active and making strenuous efforts to have the law repealed.

Early in the session a bill was introduced by Senator R. S. Norval, of Seward County, the purpose of which was to practically nullify the effect of the Siman law. This bill had been before the Senate Committee on Education but a short time until a delegation from the Seward Post of the American Legion called at State Headquarters and apprized the Department officials of the at-

tempt that was being made by their representative. The matter was promptly called to the attention of the Legion's Legislative Committee and an investigation was made. At the proper time this committee appeared before the Senate's committee and entered a strenuous objection to this effort to interfere with the Siman act. In the meantime the Legion representatives held a conference with Senator Perry Reed, of York County, who was aware of what was being planned and who bitterly opposed any change in existing legislation covering the matter. As a result, Senator Reed introduced another bill which completely changed the meaning of the Norval measure, and which provided in even stronger terms than did the Siman act for the use of the English language in the common schools of our state. The principal sections of this act were as follows:

Section 1. The English language is hereby declared to be the official language of this state, and all official proceedings, records and publications shall be in such language, and the common school branches shall be taught in said language in public, private, denominational and parochial schools.

Sec. 2. No person, individually or as a teacher, shall, in any private, denominational, or parochial or public school, teach any subject to any person in any language other than the English language.

Sec. 3. Languages other than the English language may be taught as languages only after a pupil shall have attended and successfully passed the eighth grade as evidenced by a certificate of

graduation issued by the county superintendent of the county or the city superintendent of the city in which the child resides. Provided, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to schools held on Sunday or on some other day of the week which those having the care and custody of the pupils attending same conscientiously observe as the Sabbath, where the object and purpose of such schools is the giving of religious instruction, but shall apply to all other schools and to schools held at all other times. Provided, that nothing in this Act shall prohibit any person from teaching his own children in his own home any foreign language.

Sec. 4. It shall be unlawful for any organization, whether social, religious or commercial, to prohibit, forbid or discriminate against the use of the English language in any meeting, school or proceeding, and for any officer, director, member or person in authority in any organization to pass, promulgate, connive at, publish, enforce or attempt to enforce any such prohibition or discrimination.

Sec. 5. Any public official, teacher, instructor, or other persons who shall violate any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof be fined in any sum not exceeding one hundred (\$100.00) dollars, or be confined in the county jail for a period not exceeding thirty days for each offense.

When it came time to consider this legislation,

the old German politicians and newspaper editors, smarting under the defeat of their mother country and the subsequent loss of their prestige and power in Nebraska, were again at work trying to get their language back into the schools so their influence might not wane with the coming generation. They well knew that wholesome American education as administered by our public schools would so enlighten the German citizen of tomorrow that they would no longer be able to control his political aspirations. They prepared to carry on a stubborn fight and mustered the shattered ranks of the old pre-war organization that had become known as "the Hindenburg line". But when it came to the final test, these crafty manipulators found that they had a new force to reckon with; the American Legion. Here were twenty thousand young men who knew the meaning of "German Kulture" in the truest sense; twenty thousand young Nebraskans who knew the problems of the young Germans whom they had met in the military service and who wanted to become fully Americanized subjects of the great Democracy. These twenty thousand veterans of the World War had not seen their comrades die for naught, and were determined that Nebraska and America must enter a new era wherein there must be but one country, one flag and one language.

Considerable political pressure was brought to bear on all Legislators in the 1921 session by both those for and against the English language propo-

sition, and a bitter struggle ensued. It became necessary for the American Legion's Legislative Committee to call upon all of its several hundred posts for their help in making their representatives realize the danger that lurked behind the attempt to interfere with the Siman law. The fight was also carried to the public at large and many other organizations joined with the Legion in its demand that the foreign languages be kept out of the common schools. The result of this campaign brought about the passage of Senator Reed's bill, which later became known as the Reed-Norval act. Again the advocates of the foreign press and language were defeated.

Within a short time after the passage of this measure and the signing of the same by the Governor, the thing most expected happened. The disgruntled German element carried the matter into the courts again, and began to fight the legality and constitutionality of the new law on the ground that it restricted religious liberty, endangered the value of parochial school property and was in contravention with the Constitution of the United States.

The American Legion again took up the challenge and prepared to carry on the fight to a finish. The organization had been instrumental and active in securing the passage of the law, so it was deemed advisable by Commander Simmons to appoint a committee to assist the Attorney-General of the state in its defense. The committee appointed consisted of the following, all of whom



Post Adjutants of the Nebraska Legion (1921)

were well-known Legion members and highly respected attorneys at law: Earl M. Cline, Nebraska City, Chairman; Anan Raymond, Omaha; Fred W. Ashton, Grand Island; Charles L. Brewster, Beatrice; Edward P. McDermott, Kearney; Guy C. Chambers, Lincoln; T. J. McGuire, Omaha; William Ritchie, Jr., Omaha; O. S. Spillman, Pierce; and James G. Mothersead, Scottsbluff. Subsequently, at the request of the members of this committee the name of the Department Commander, Robert G. Simmons, was added to the committee.

The action involving the legality of the law was tried at Fremont, Nebraska, in September, 1921. The American Legion was represented at this trial by Mr. Edward P. McDermott and Mr. Guy C. Chambers, both members of the committee charged with its defense. The Attorney General's Department was represented by Assistant Attorneys General Mason Wheeler and Charles S. Reed, both members of Lincoln Post No. 3, who filed an exhaustive and elaborate brief in support of the measure. The Court took the matter under advisement and later handed down a decision stating that the law was constitutional, but granting a perpetual injunction against the state authorities from prohibiting thereunder religious instruction in a foreign language, holding that the rights and property of the applicants were endangered by such enforcement of the law. The effect of this decision was to again allow some instruction in the grade schools of the state to be

given in a foreign language, and notably to allow instruction then being given in the German language in such schools to be continued without restraint.

This decision in the District Court was handed down just prior to the Third State Convention of the Nebraska Legion, held at Fremont on September 29, 30 and October 1, 1921. Mr. Earl M. Cline, Past Commander of the Legion and Chairman of the Committee looking after the legal interests of the organization in this matter, made a comprehensive report to the convention. His report was received with much feeling on the part of the various delegates and after due deliberation the following resolution was unanimously endorsed:

"That the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, in convention assembled, hereby re-announces and re-affirms its belief and position with respect to said language law: That said language law requiring the English language to be used in the grade schools in the State of Nebraska, is in harmony with American institutions and ideals; most conducive to the promulgation of and training in the principles of good citizenship, and designed and calculated to insure the unity of our people and the safety of our Government.

"That Americans, who are real Americans should desire to know and to use the American language, and should desire their children to be taught such language, and that Americans without such desires are not properly imbued with the

true spirit of America and American institutions and should be required by the legislatures and courts of this country to comply with laws designed for its welfare and perpetuity. That a policy which necessitates school instruction in a foreign language so that fathers and mothers may advise with and talk to their children is a dangerous policy because each succeeding generation will thereby be composed of such fathers and mothers uneducated in and unacquainted with the language of their country. That the Supreme Ruler of the Universe is not a German God, unable to hear and to answer a suppliant's prayer in the English language. That this language law does not strike at religion; that it does not interfere with education; that it is fundamentally American and absolutely right.

"That the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, in convention assembled, hereby instructs and empowers the Department Commander and Department Executive Committee, elected by this convention, or either of them, to authorize further the Special Language Litigation Committee already appointed, or to appoint another such Committee, if deemed advisable, to continue to represent and appear for the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, in this litigation, in any manner, legal and proper, and as the judgment of said Committee shall direct, in State or Federal Courts, or elsewhere, and in event the final litigation thereon discloses constitutional defects in said language law, then the Commander of the Ameri-

can Legion, Department of Nebraska, is empowered and hereby instructed, to appoint a committee of three, authorized and directed to prepare and initiate an amendment to the Constitution of Nebraska calculated to cure such defects."

As soon as it was learned that a perpetual injunction prohibiting the enforcement of the Reed-Norval act had been granted, the Attorney General's Department took immediate steps to carry the matter to the Supreme Court of the state. This was duly done and again Mr. Cline and his Committee assisted in the preparation of the case. This committee prepared an exhaustive brief and filed it along with that of the Attorney General. Mr. Cline and Mr. Ritchie appeared before the Court as did Attorneys General Wheeler and Reed. This took place early in 1922 and in the spring of the same year the Supreme Court handed down a decision that overturned that of the District Court and allowed the state officers to enforce the law since it was held that the same was a reasonable exercise of the police power of the State Legislature.

Thus did the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, enter upon and conduct its first great struggle for an unselfish cause in behalf of the people of Nebraska. Its clean, aggressive fight made the organization many friends, and gave the people of Nebraska evidence that the Legion had come to be a power for good government and intelligent patriotism and one hundred per cent Americanism.

CHAPTER IX

Third Annual Convention

The third annual meeting of the Nebraska American Legion took place at Fremont, on September 29, 30, and October 1, 1921.

"It is an honor to Fremont, or to any city, to entertain the American Legion," said Mayor Green, in welcoming the five hundred delegates to his city. "It is an honor not only for what you men have done, but also for what you are doing, for what you stand for, for what you are. I feel that the American Legion is an organization that is destined to become a mighty force, and wield a tremendous influence in the affairs of our country, and you must therefore assume a correspondingly great responsibility. You were a mighty power in the war; I wonder if you realize the possibilities for power in times of peace. You can exert a great influence for right, for justice, and for morality. Your order stands for those things, and it must ever stand for these things or your power will crumble. Even as you did in your battle against arrogance, against autocracy, against the mightiest power in all Europe, you represent today the courage, the strength, the power of the nation. These are the mighty forces of character, and a nation is only as strong as the character of its people."

The convention was also addressed by Governor S. R. McKelvie and by Senator Perry Reed, who

led the fight in behalf of the English language in the 1921 session of the State Legislation. This distinguished Legislator was given a great ovation by the delegates and in his address he told the story of the foreign-language struggle that took place while most of the Legion members were in the service. An address was also made by Major Chas. C. Cresson, who assisted in the prosecution of the notorious slacker, Bergdoll. The National Commander of the American Legion was unable to be present and was represented by Humphrey Sullivan, who made a splendid address on the adjusted compensation fight which was being waged by the national organization at the time.

A feature of this meeting, which caused considerable amusement, was the selection of the prettiest girl in Fremont and the homliest delegate to the convention. After a careful and painstaking selection in which Chancellor Avery of the Nebraska State University, Walter L. Anderson, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Lewis (Lum) R. Doyle, State Boxing Commissioner, and several other well-known Legion men played a conspicuous part, Glenn H. Coffey of Lincoln, was finally chosen as "Nebraska's homliest Veteran". Later Mr. Coffey took the leading part in a scene entitled "Beauty and the Beast", which was made into motion pictures.

The Third Annual Convention brought out several facts that augured well the future of the American Legion. The first healthy sign that was

to be seen in all deliberations was the desire on the part of all delegates to be most careful in their judgment. No action was taken until the matter had been thoroughly discussed and considered from every point of view. During the first several years there had been a tendency to act on the spur of the moment. Resolutions were passed and demands were made without due deliberation. This led to some mistakes that frequently were very damaging to the organization. But it was quite evident that this fault was due to lack of understanding of the aims and purposes of the Legion, and that it was soon to be overcome. The other healthy sign demonstrated by this meeting was the desire to stand firmly for principles and fight to the finish to win. This was true with the English language fight and the controversy surrounding the granting of adjusted compensation to World War veterans. The Nebraska Legion considered these matters from every angle and decided to stand back of them to the last ditch. Legion men did not break ranks in war and it was evident they would not break them in peace.

At this time the matter of adjusted compensation was a great issue before Congress. This body had asked the American Legion to recommend legislation to right the financial wrongs accorded the men who served in the military forces during the World War. The demand on the part of veterans and patriotic citizens to have this matter righted was very great, and, with over fifty bills before it, Congress had turned to the Ameri-

can Legion and asked that they suggest the kind of legislation that would be best for both the veteran and the country at large. The national Legislative Committee of the Legion immediately presented a bill that adjusted this compensation by offering the veteran five different options that would enable him to secure land, a home, an education, or paid-up Government insurance, or a cash consideration. However, when this measure came before Congress, certain Wall Street financial interests began a nation-wide fight against it. This battle between the Legion and the profiteers of the war was waged from 1920, with the latter gaining ground every day. In order to let the people of Nebraska and their representatives at Washington know exactly how the Nebraska Legion stood on the matter, the following resolution was passed at Fremont:

“WHEREAS, fairness and justice dictate that Adjusted Compensation should be awarded to ex-service persons, and

WHEREAS, the American Legion has definitely proposed legislation respecting adjusted compensation to the federal government, and

WHEREAS, the passage of said legislation has been unnecessarily delayed,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we commend the work already accomplished, in this respect, and instruct the delegates to the National Convention to exert strenuous efforts to effect a speedy enactment by the United States



William Ritchie, Jr.
Department Commander (1922)

Senate of the American Legion's four-fold adjusted compensation plan."

Other resolutions favored a larger program of Americanism, especially with reference to the respect for the national colors and the study of American history; a closer bond of fellowship and cooperation between the American Legion and other patriotic organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic and the United Spanish War Veterans; better care of disabled and sick veterans on the part of the Federal Government; and better service to posts by the national organization of the Legion.

A great deal of time at this meeting was devoted to the drafting of by-laws for the department and in making several important changes in the constitution of the organization. The new state aid fund act called for several constitutional requirements to govern the committee charged with its disbursement. There was also quite an extended discussion regarding the department dues which had never been sufficient to take care of the expenses incident to the administration of the state organization. Authority was eventually granted, raising the per capita state dues from fifty to seventy-five cents.

The election of officers took place on the last day, as customary at the annual conventions. Interest centered around the office of Department Commander and efforts were made by all delegates present to get the best man for the position. Attention finally centered on William

Ritchie, Jr., of the Douglas County Post at Omaha. Ritchie had been enthusiastic about Legion affairs ever since the St. Louis caucus and had served on various committees in all the state conventions. At the time he was a member of the Department Executive Committee, where he had accomplished a great deal of work. He was later elected by unanimous choice.

"I hope I shall be able to measure up to the standards set by the two Commanders who have preceded me," Mr. Ritchie said, after being called to the platform. "If I can measure up only in a small way, I shall be happy. I must depend upon you men of the Legion and upon every post in the department for hearty cooperation in carrying out the spirit that has been infused into this organization by the two past Commanders of the Department of Nebraska, and in extending the hand of fellowship to every veteran who is not now a member of the American Legion."

Other officers selected to serve with Commander Ritchie were as follows:

Vice-Commanders:

Harry H. Ellis, Holdrege.

Lester L. Dunn, Lincoln.

Arthur Bell, York.

Adjutant:

Frank B. O'Connell, Lincoln.

Finance Officer:

Frank S. Perkins, Fremont.

Chaplain:

Rev. R. S. True, Syracuse.

Executive Committee:

E. B. Chappell, Lincoln.
Dr. Edgar Cline, Auburn.
C. W. Andrews, Arlington.
Samuel Reynolds, Omaha.
C. A. Orr, Wayne.
Father John Palubicki, Stanton.
Marion Shaw, David City.
Henry Fouts, Fairbury.
Dr. R. G. Cressman, Hastings.
Chas. V. Chadwick, Cambridge .
R. L. Cockran, North Platte.
C. B. Townsend, Chadron.
Robert G. Simmons, Scottsbluff.

National Executive Committee:

Earl M. Cline, Nebraska City.
Frank A. Warner, Norfolk.

CHAPTER X

The Ritchie Administration

The success of an army depends greatly upon the ability of its commander to organize his units in such a way that every man has something to do and knows just when and how to do it.

It might be said that the success of the administration of William Ritchie, Jr., was attributable to this ability. No department of the American Legion has ever produced a leader who had greater capacity for hard work or greater ability in getting every member of his organization to take an active part in its activities. Ritchie was ever at work devising ways and means of promoting the Legion; ever at work pushing, encouraging, demanding that each of his fellow officers do his part in making the Nebraska American Legion a great organization. Though suffering from a physical disability caused by his military service, he never ceased his activity nor allowed his handicap to interfere with his work. He was the driving power behind a group of ardent workers.

Early in his administration Ritchie outlined his program for the year to his Department Committee. Several days were spent in going over these plans and assigning specific duties to each member. The Commander made it plain that he considered the great objective of the year a development of comradeship within the American Legion. He pointed out the need for a better un-

derstanding of one another on the part of the individual members, and a keener and more sympathetic appreciation of their duties on the part of the officers. He believed the time was at hand when the American Legion should become a great fraternity in fact as well as in name. Not only must the disabled be cared for, but each member must continually be on guard for the welfare of his comrades and help them when the opportunity presented itself.

"We must try to weld the thousands of Nebraska veterans into a great fraternity," Ritchie told his committee. "We should strive to create a greater bond of comradeship among the members. This cannot be done unless each post is a fraternity in itself, and unless each member is willing to carry out the real spirit of the Legion. Our preamble says, 'we associate ourselves together to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness'. Let each of us try to live up to this during the coming years."

Another thought that Commander Ritchie desired to bring before the various posts was the need for each member to have something to do. In most organizations there are a few faithful servants who are always willing to carry the load. Those who, through lack of interest or want of experience, do nothing for the good of an order, are very often likely to shift all responsibility and leadership to the faithful ones. The Legion was no different from other organizations in this re-

spect. A few hard working members in each post assumed all the duties. It led to the belief on the part of some of the new members that the organization was undemocratic and was controlled by cliques. Ritchie tried to impress upon all Post officers the danger in such a situation and urged them to use every possible means to get new members to take an interest in the post and help carry on the work. There was no better way to do this than to give each man a specific task and help him accomplish it. This not only resulted in getting more members interested in the organization but it developed new leaders throughout the department.

In order to make it possible for each post to have an idea of the aims and purposes of the Legion, and just what part each post was to take. Ritchie and his associates compiled and published a book which was known as "The Campaign for 1922". This was one of the finest programs ever put before Legion posts in any part of the country. National Commander Hanford MacNider was very enthusiastic in his praise of this book and had the National Adjutant send a copy to each department of the organization. The pamphlet contained the suggestion of the Commander and Department Executive Committee for all activities which they believed would stimulate an interest in each post and give the American Legion a high standing in every community. This book was followed by a number of smaller publications each of which went into detail regarding

each particular subject. It was the intention of the state officers that the Campaign Book should be in the possession of the Post Officers, while each of the little pamphlets should be turned over to the chairman of the committee charged with carrying out a specific part of the program.

The suggestions of this book regarding Americanism and post activities were especially illuminating. Many posts had been organized only a short time and did not know just how they were to go about this work. The suggestions on post activities explained to the unit just how it might co-operate with the public in civic affairs; how it could assist in obtaining employment, emergency relief, and federal compensation for its members; how the post could look after the graves of the dead and carry out ceremonies that were expected of it. The program on Americanism was especially helpful to every post. In explaining the objects of the Legion's work in this respect, we find the following:

"The object of the Legion's Americanization work should be to inculcate a love and respect for American institutions, principles and ideals. It should impress upon all citizens and other residents of this country the fact that the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States are the foundation stones of the best method of government which had ever been devised by man, and that, if there are faults in the body politic, these were due mostly to the human agencies to which are delegated the enact-

ment and enforcement of our laws and not to the Constitution. It should impress upon all Americans the fact that faults in government should be corrected by an orderly process under the Constitution and not by destruction of that instrument, a disregard of the laws of the land, nor a disrespect for the courts of the country."

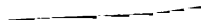
Another outstanding accomplishment of Ritchie's leadership was the co-operation furnished the national organization in relieving the unemployed of service men. During the winter of 1921-22 many men were thrown out of work by the depression in business throughout the country. The situation was especially acute in the eastern part of the country where dozens of factories, mills and mines found it necessary to close down. Nebraska, being an agricultural state, did not suffer so keenly, nevertheless a considerable number of men were without means of livelihood. Commander Ritchie made every effort possible to secure positions not only for Nebraska men but for Legion members of other states. Hundreds of men were assisted in this way, and a great deal of suffering and distress was remedied.

During the first part of each year, new officers are elected in all the American Legion posts throughout the state of Nebraska, and it becomes necessary for the Department Officers to help these men become familiar with duties. In order to reach as many of these Commanders and Adjutants as possible, Commander Ritchie held a series of district meetings, held at points through-



First Auxiliary Officers

**Mrs. J. E. Baird, National Committeewoman; Mrs. Edgar B. Penney,
Department President; Mrs. H. R. Ball, Department Secretary.**



out the state that would be advantageous to the largest number of posts. Twelve of these meetings were held and much good accomplished. All the Legion officials would gather around a table and in a very informal way discuss their problems and offer testimonials for the good of the order. At these meetings Commander Ritchie insisted that his fellow officers call him just plain "Bill", and by such name is he now best known among Nebraska veterans. A somewhat amusing incident happened at one of these gatherings. A post official was telling some of his troubles and mentioned a certain individual who it seems had made matters very trying for the Post Commander. In describing this individual, the Legion officer mentioned that he belonged to a certain college fraternity and was a minister. Inasmuch as Commander Ritchie was a member of that fraternity, everybody laughed. The Post Commander, very much embarrassed, turned to Ritchie and said: "I didn't know you were a minister, Mr. Ritchie!"

A considerable part of the Legion's activities during 1922 was devoted to work among the disabled men. The Veteran's Bureau, but newly reorganized, needed a great deal of cooperation and advice from the American Legion in smoothing out the many difficulties that arose in the administration of its duties. These problems were taken up by the Nebraska organization of the Legion and thoroughly considered. Conferences were held with Government agents and every ef-

fort made to look after the interests of the men who needed rehabilitation. It will be remembered that the State Aid Fund Committee did not start to function until late in the fall of 1921. The administration of this act needed much help from the Legion and a great deal of time was devoted to helping the committee give the best possible service to the needy veteran. The posts throughout the department responded very enthusiastically to this task, and very valuable assistance was rendered Chairman Fisher and his committeemen by the Post Commanders and Adjutants.

Commander Ritchie did not overlook the value of publicity, and the splendid system for the dissemination of information followed in previous administrations was continued. A department newspaper for veterans was endorsed and utilized in carrying messages to the posts and the public in general. News of a general interest was gathered and forwarded to the national news service. A radiophone was installed late in the year and information regarding Legion activities was broadcasted weekly throughout the state. The Legion used every possible means to acquaint the veterans and the general public with its activities.

Steps were taken by Commander Ritchie to obtain a more general observation of Armistice day and greater respect for the flag. A resolution was passed by the Department Executive Committee, calling on all citizens of Nebraska to observe this day, but at the same time urging posts to create public opinion in favor of the observation

of this day rather than demanding that the people observe it. A week was designated in February as "Respect the Flag Week", and efforts were made to get a more general appreciation of the necessity of respecting the national colors on the part of loyal citizens.

Last, but by no means least, the Ritchie administration gave attention to the membership of the department. In spite of very depressing financial conditions, the Nebraska American Legion was one of the very few organizations in the state which held its membership. Not only did Commander Ritchie end his administration with a slight increase in membership but he succeeded in establishing a number of new posts that will materially increase the membership of the department in later years.

It is always a difficult matter to make an historical record of an event that is close at hand. As this book is written, Commander Ritchie's administration is drawing to a close. It is still too near at hand to look upon it in the proper perspective. However, one does not make an extravagant claim when it is recorded that Ritchie has played a very important part in the history of the Nebraska American Legion, and accomplished a particular work that has rounded out the organization and increased its power. Ritchie carried the message of comradeship to his fellow Legion members; he "humanized" the organization, if one may use that term. He planted the seeds of interest and activity that are bound to bring out new

leadership in the organization. And the organization that is watchful of its leaders of tomorrow, need have no fear of the future.

It must be said that Ritchie was surrounded by a goodly number of hard working fellow officers. Particularly valuable service was rendered by Charles W. Andrews, of Arlington, in post activity work. Father John Palubicki, of Stanton, assisted greatly in handling the speaker's bureau. Henry W. Fouts, of Fairbury, Roy L. Cochran, of North Platte, and J. B. Townsend, of Chadron, assisted greatly in membership and activities. Harry H. Ellis of Holdrege and Charles V. Chadwick, of Cambridge, did much in promoting athletics, while Lester Dunn gave a great deal of attention to employment matters. Likewise Frank S. Perkins, department finance officer, rendered valuable service in financial matters. In fact, every member of the Department Executive Committee gave liberally of his time and helped to make the Nebraska American Legion an organization worthy of its membership.

The Department Officers who served with Commander Ritchie are as follows:

Harry H. Ellis, Holdrege, 1st Vice Commander.

Lester Dunn, Lincoln, 2nd Vice Commander.

Arthur Bell, York, 3rd Vice Commander.

Rev. R. S. True, Syracuse, Department Chaplain.

Frank S. Perkins, Fremont, Department Finance Officer.

Frank B. O'Connell, Department Adjutant.
Earl M. Cline, Nebraska City, National Executive Committeeman.

Department Executive Committee:

Samuel W. Reynolds, Omaha.
C. W. Andrews, Arlington.
E. B. Chappell, Lincoln.
Dr. Edgar Cline, Auburn.
Father John Palubicki, Stanton,
C. A. Orr, Wayne.
Marion Shaw, David City,
Henry W. Fouts, Fairbury.
Dr. R. G. Cressman, Hastings,
Chas. V. Chadwick, Cambridge.
J. B. Townsend, Chadron,
R. L. Cochran, North Platte.

CHAPTER XI.

Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary.

The Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion was established by an act of the First National Convention of the American Legion, held at Minneapolis, Minn., November 10-12, 1919. Prior to this meeting, the temporary national organization of the Legion had received many requests for recognition from representatives of several women's organizations. These officers felt that they were not sufficiently empowered to grant such recognition to an auxiliary, and suggested that the representatives appear before the first national convention.

When the first convention was held, a committee was appointed to consider the feasibility of such an auxiliary. It was decided that the best way to secure an efficient, affiliated women's organization was to build one. It was more or less difficult to recognize an organization already established and it was felt by many that such a procedure might embarrass the Legion eventually. Then, too, there were several groups desiring affiliation, and to accept one, would cause more or less ill feeling on the part of the others. At this time, the convention recognized in entirety new organization to be known as "The Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion."

At the time of the Second National Convention, held at Cleveland, Ohio, on September 27-29,

1920, there were 1,342 units of the Auxiliary throughout the United States. No department organization had as yet been perfected. At this convention it was decided that an intensive organizing policy should be pursued, and efforts made to get department organizations in every state. Over 11,000 women had already joined the Auxiliary, and it was felt that it was a splendid help to the American Legion in carrying out its great program. This convention also authorized the National Commander of the Legion to call a convention when the proper number of departments had effected organizations. During the period between the second Legion convention and the first National Auxiliary meeting at Kansas City the following year, over 3,653 units were chartered and 131,000 members enrolled.

The first Auxiliary convention was held at Kansas City, Mo., on November 1, 2, 1921. Upon a roll call it was found that there were department organizations in forty-two states and several in insular possessions of the United States. At this meeting a national constitution was adopted, national officers elected, and the name changed to "American Legion Auxiliary." From this time the destiny of the organization was in the hands of its own officers.

Early in 1920, efforts were first made to organize Auxiliary units in Nebraska. The National Executive Committee of the American Legion advised the Department Officers of the Nebraska Legion that such authority had been granted.

Commander Cline immediately arranged to charter units as fast as they were organized, and on August 11, 1920, shortly before the Second Annual State Convention of the Nebraska Legion, thirty-three units had been organized in the department, and nearly a thousand members enrolled.

Among the first units to get under way were Scottsbluff, Wilber, Hartington, Fremont and York. It seems that the York women were the first to take up the work, but they did not file their application at State Headquarters until after several others had come to hand. According to the records in the department archives, the first fifteen applications for units received at State Headquarters are as follows:

These applications were sent by the acting presidents as shown below.

Scottsbluff, on Jan. 29, 1920, by Mrs. Jerome H. Smith; Wilber, Jan. 29, 1920, by Mrs. Fred Shimerda; Hartington, Jan. 29, 1920, by Mrs. Lucien Stark; Lewellen, Jan. 29, 1920, by Arvilla Temple; Clay Center, Jan. 29, 1920, by Florence N. Secord; Ogallala, Feb. 9, 1920, by the American Legion; Fremont, Feb. 10, 1920, by Mrs. Henry A. Jess; Bridgeport, Feb. 10, 1920, by Mrs. Irene Neighbors; Plattsmouth, Feb. 14, 1920, by Mrs. H. J. Heneger; York, Feb. 16, 1920, by Imogene Thomas; Merna, Feb. 24, 1920, by Bernice Doney; Seward, Mar. 3, 1920, by Mrs. J. A. Gillan; Broken Bow, Mar. 10, 1920, by Mrs. C. H. England; Walthill, Mar. 24, 1920, by Elizabeth David-



Officers for 1922

Lester L. Dunn, Arthur Bell.
(Second Row) Harry H. Ellis, Rev. R. S. True
(Third Row) Henry W. Fouts, C. W. Andrews

son; Blair, Mar. 25, 1920, by Mrs. Minnie Williams; Holdrege, Mar. 29, 1920, by Mrs. E. I. Whitehead; Hemmingford, Mar. 30, 1920, by Charlotte M. Erskine; Norfolk, Mar. 30, 1920, by Mrs. Margaret Tinley; Geneva, Mar. 31, 1920, by Mrs. J. K. Waring.

At the Hastings convention of the Legion, held in the fall of 1920, Commander Cline appointed W. P. Bemis, of Grand Island as Chairman of a committee to consider ways and means of promoting Auxiliary activity and organizing units. This committee made the following report:

"Your committee must submit this report as a suggestion to the convention and not as a report of activities actually accomplished at the committee meeting.

'It has been found that the difficulty confronting the various posts in the formation of women's auxiliaries is that the ladies are not able to obtain information as to the duties that are really required of them in the auxiliary. There has never been a definite plan of action submitted to any post or a definite plan of action as to formations and activities sent to various departments from the national headquarters. It is therefore respectfully suggested that this convention take active steps to properly organize a permanent committee on Woman's Auxiliaries.

"As a step to making this a national committee, it is suggested that this convention

elect as one of the delegates-at-large a woman member of the American Legion; that this woman delegate be instructed to inaugurate at the National Convention a movement to secure data and information necessary to enlighten the state committee on Woman's Auxiliaries.

It is further suggested that the State Department make the appointment of an organizer. This organizer should be a woman eligible for the Woman's Auxiliary, whose duty it will be to visit the various posts in the state and to establish an auxiliary at that post's town.

"As a furtherance of these plans it is suggested that a committee of six—three men and three women—be appointed to further the work of the Woman's Auxiliary. This committee to function and give aid to various posts after the national convention.

"We make this suggestion to work after the National Convention because it is earnestly hoped that this convention will instruct all its delegates to work for a definite plan of action and for a strong platform upon which to build a Woman's Auxiliary."

Immediately following the meeting at Hastings Commander Simmons appointed Mr. Bemis as Chairman of a permanent committee to look after the organization of the Auxiliary in Nebraska. The Department Executive Committee placed the

administrative work under the Department Adjutant, to be handled along with his Legion duties. During 1921 over a hundred units of the Auxiliary were organized and over three thousand paid members enrolled. Inasmuch as the organization made such a splendid growth, Commander Simmons deemed it advisable to call a State Convention of the Auxiliary and let them adopt their department constitution and elect their own officers. This was duly done and the Nebraska Auxiliary held its first State Convention at Fremont, Neb., on September 30, October 1, 1922.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a. m., Friday, September 30, 1921, by Walter L. Anderson, a member of Lincoln Post No 3, of the American Legion, and at the time the Speaker of the House in the State Legislature. Mr. Anderson was deputized for the occasion by Commander Simmons who had to officiate at the Legion meeting which was in session at the same time. Miss Helen Marr, of Fremont, was selected as temporary Chairman of the convention, and Mrs. W. H. Neumarker, of Columbus, was chosen as temporary Secretary.

Most of the work accomplished by this first convention was in the matter of organization. It was necessary to build the department structure and coordinate the units before other tasks could be attempted. However, the organization was perfected in a remarkably short time, and it was not long until the Nebraska Woman's Auxiliary was ready to take its place beside the American

Legion to do constructive work in all patriotic endeavors and in the care and relief of disabled veterans.

The resolutions passed by this convention, though few, are interesting, because they show the part in Legion activities that the Auxiliary desires to take. "Be it resolved," reads one of them, "that the Womans Auxiliary of the Nebraska American Legion use its best efforts to help care for the graves of World War Veterans; that it use its influence in discouraging the desecration of Memorial Day by the holding of athletic contests and games of sport; that the Auxiliary join hands with the American Legion and all other patriotic organizations in the cultivation of a proper respect for the flag."

A department constitution was adopted, permanent officers were elected, delegates to the First National Convention were selected, and State Headquarters established. An intensive membership campaign was planned, and efforts made to get an Auxiliary unit in every community in the state. All possible steps were taken to build a great sister organization to the American Legion—one that would be worthy of the great veteran body and one that would be a credit to the state of Nebraska. How well the delegates succeeded in this was made evident by the splendid growth of the organization during the following year.

The Auxiliary was particularly fortunate in the selection of its first officers. Mrs. Minnie F. Fenney, of Fullerton, was elected the first presi-

dent. Mrs. Penney was a woman of much experience, having been prominent in the Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs and active in Red Cross work during the war. She possessed great ability as a leader and as an organizer, and was very sympathetic toward the cause of the ex-service man.

Mrs. Robert G. Simmons, of Scottsbluff, wife of Commander Simmons, was chosen as 1st Vice President, and Mrs. W. S. Holmes, of Hastings, a gold Star Mother, as 2nd Vice President. Both of these women had been active in Legion work from the founding of the organization and were greatly interested in the World War veteran and his problems. Mrs. J. E. Baird, of Lincoln, was elected National Committee woman, and Mrs. W. F. Bryant, of Hartington, as Historian. Both of these officers served with distinction. Mrs. Leah M. Ball, of Lincoln, was named as Secretary. Mrs. Ball was splendidly qualified for the administrative work of the organization, having unusual ability in organization and secretarial work. The following were chosen for District Executive Committeewomen: Mrs. C. E. McGlasson, Lincoln; Mrs. N. E. Johnson, Valley; Mrs. E. C. Warner, Norfolk; Mrs. H. C. Turner, Seward; Mrs. W. A. Prince, Grand Island; Mrs. G. M. Ackerman, Ainsworth.

The administration of Mrs. Penney and her co-workers was most successful from every point of view. The units were increased during 1922 from 110 to 190, and the membership raised from ap-

proximately 3,000 to over 6,000. The organization centered its efforts during the year on welfare work among disabled men in Nebraska hospitals, and it accomplished much in this respect. Mrs. C. H. England, was named as Chairman of this committee, and proved to be an efficient and tireless worker, with a kindly interest in all men who returned from the war broken in body and spirit. During the year over 300 Christmas boxes were prepared and sent to the various hospitals; while local units made weekly trips to the institutions located in their respective vicinities where contact with the men was established. A special hospital fund was raised for emergency needs, and a radiophone was installed in one of the large hospitals in Iowa where many Nebraska men are hospitalized. Owing to the fact that Nebraska contained few Government hospitals, the Nebraska Auxiliary contributed largely to hospitals in Iowa, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri and New Mexico. A system was perfected whereby large boxes containing magazines, phonograph records, smokes, candy and other articles were delivered to these institutions every two weeks. Great aid was also rendered the Legion's State Aid Committee by the various local units of the Auxiliary.

The American Legion Woman's Auxiliary of Nebraska has a great future. It can become the most powerful woman's organization in the state, and be a great force for better government and Americanism. There are approximately two hun-

dred thousand women in the state who are eligible to join this association. It has four times the potential strength of the Legion, and many times the potential strength of any other woman's organization. The Auxiliary is the Great Sister to the American Legion and its aims and purposes are to work side by side with that organization. What the future holds for it must be left for history to record, but it is not beyond reason to believe that the American Legion Auxliary is going to help write a brilliant page in the history of Nebraska.

CHAPTER XII.

The First Four Years.

When a group of Civil War veterans of Illinois met in 1866 and conceived the idea of a fraternal organization of the men who fought with Grant through the long years of civil strife, they scarcely foresaw the magnitude of the work of the Grand Army of the Republic which they founded. Yet, for more than half a century that great organization has wielded an influence throughout the Republic that can never be measured.

Neither could that small group of World War veterans who gathered at Paris in the winter of 1919 have foreseen the future of the American Legion. It must have been beyond their fondest dreams to expect that within four years after the signing of the Armistice, the American Legion would have become one of America's greatest organizations, with local units established in every community throughout the land. Nor could that small group of men who gathered at Lincoln in the spring of the same year have dreamed that within the same short span of time, their own state would contain a branch of the American Legion that held within its ranks twenty thousand members and cast its influence into every community throughout the great commonwealth of Nebraska.

Yet that is what the American Legion has accomplished during its first four years. It has

grown so rapidly that in almost every community throughout the state the name "American Legion" has come to stand for high ideals and unselfish service. It may be possible that some members or posts of the organization have not as yet found themselves. It may be possible that others have made mistakes or have been misunderstood, and have not caught the real spirit of the American Legion. But even so, these things will eventually right themselves and the American Legion will come to be one of Nebraska's greatest assets; an organization that will take its place among the finest things that came out of the great war.

The growth of the American Legion in Nebraska, as elsewhere, has been phenomenal. Such a thing has never happened before in this country or in any other country. Posts have sprung into being almost over night, and not hundreds but thousands of men have caught the spirit of the Legion and within a few months have become enthusiastic workers for its great cause. When one pauses to consider that the American Legion, at the end of its first four years, has as many members in Nebraska as had the great Grand Army of the Republic in America at the end of its first ten years, he can to some extent appreciate the rapid growth of the younger organization. Let it be understood that this comparison with the Grand Army is not meant to be depreciatory in any sense of the word, but merely to give the reader an idea of the astounding growth of

the American Legion. It must be remembered that the Grand Army did not have the potential strength of the Legion and that it had many problems to face which the Legion did not have.

This great growth of the American Legion has been due, primarily, to the fact that its ideals are not only right and just but that they are sane and practical. It is due, secondly, to the fact that there was a spontaneous desire on the part of nearly every World War veteran to keep alive the splendid spirit of service to his country and to his comrades which he found during his tour of duty in the war. And thirdly, this growth has been brought about by virtue of the fact that the leaders of the organization could profit by the experience of the Grand Army of the Republic and avoid the many shell-holes in the road which that organization encountered.

The success of the Legion during these first four years has been built around the word "service." The organization has set out from the very beginning to serve. The post that has served the most reaped the greatest gain. Not only has the organization aimed to serve the disabled veterans of the war, and its own members, but it has served its country as well. The greatest single service rendered to the disabled during the first four years has been in the championing of his cause before the Government and the obtaining for him the fair and just treatment to which he is entitled. And the greatest single service rendered to the country during that time has been the

virile stand to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and to maintain law and order. Those months following a great world upheaval must necessarily be trying. At its best, the world must go through a certain stage of readjustment. Empires cannot fall, billions of dollars of wealth be dissipated and millions of lives lost without the entire world being profoundly affected. It so happened that this particular period of readjustment was aggravated and complicated by the clashing of fundamental ideas regarding a republican form of government. This brought the situation much closer to our own nation, and threatened its institutions and traditions. It became a time when men must be peace-loving, sane and practical. It was no hour for experimenting. The nation must stand firmly for its established form of government and patiently and courageously solve the many difficult problems that were the inevitable result of a world catastrophe. The American Legion, composed exclusively of those men who best knew how to use force were the most opposed to such a means of readjusting conditions. They stood firmly for the peaceful settlement of all world problems, and for the strict maintenance of established law and order. The American Legion made it plain to all that it would never tolerate any changes in American government that were not brought about in an orderly manner under those provisions set forth in the national constitution.

After service to country, came service to the

disabled. The American Legion began early in its history to espouse the cause of the disabled man, who, most unfortunately, was left in the wake of the war in a most deplorable condition. Although the war had been over nearly a year, thousands of these men who gave so much in war were merely objects of private charity, without substantial aid from the Government for which they had fought so well. During these four years the American Legion has justified its existence in its accomplishments for these men alone. Constructive legislation was framed and passed and then properly and efficiently put into practice. Nebraska stands high among the states for its adequate and efficient care for the human wrecks of war.

But the American Legion has served even further than this. It has reverently honored the memories of those who made the supreme sacrifice. The first four years of the Nebraska American Legion's history contains an illustrious page upon which is written, "they shall not have died in vain." Not only has the organization always stood ready to pay the last respects to those veterans who have passed on to their reward, since the war, but it has faithfully paid homage and honor to the memory of those whose bodies were returned from foreign lands. Day after day and month after month, the American Legion has stood before a flag-draped tomb and paid its greatest honor to one who gave much for humanity. It has sent to France, England and Italy thous-

ands of wreaths each Memorial Day to be placed on the tombs of those who still sleep where they fell.

The first four years of the Nebraska American Legion are bright and full ones. It has served its country; it has served the disabled; it has served the dead. The organization has grown from a small group to a mighty army of over a million workers.

So much for the past. Now let us turn to the future and see what lies ahead.

CHAPTER XIII.

The Future and Its Outlook.

When the call came in 1917 fifty thousand of Nebraska's sons laid aside their civic duties and went forth to camp and battlefield to give as fate might decree that civilization should not be destroyed. In this great cataclysm, which raged from 1914 to 1918, ten millions of lives were lost and billions of dollars of wealth destroyed. States and empires were demolished and crumbled into decay. Aged concepts of government underwent a complete change and many of them were thrown aside. The entire world trembled and human society was profoundly touched. It was the most stupendous drama of all the ages.

To have taken part in the struggle that turned the tide of events and again brought peace to the world is a distinction of which any American citizen should be proud. To have served in such a cause should be a heritage that posterity will receive with gratitude. It must be the final verdict of history that the World War was more productive of good or evil than any other period of time. It will be either the world's greatest massacre or the world's greatest crusade. Which it shall be, massacre or crusade, must be determined by the good or the evil that comes out of that struggle. And the amount of good or evil that comes out will depend mostly upon the men who fought and survived.

The sons of Nebraska who have laid aside the uniform and the implements of war to take up their civic duties again, must not and cannot forget this titanic struggle. "To them, from failing hands, has been thrown the torch." It must be their duty to carry on and rebuild civilization, now that the destroyers have been put asunder. They must see that good comes out of the world's greatest war and that ten millions of lives were not lost in vain.

There is no better way for these survivors of the war to carry on than through the American Legion. For God and Country and Humanity they have associated themselves together. For God and country and humanity they must serve. Never, perhaps, in the history of the world, has there been a greater opportunity to serve. The nations of the globe are faced with perplexing problems. The several peoples are staggering under burdens they scarce can carry. Class hatred has arisen and threatens the solidarity of empires both democratic and autocratic. Great groups of humanity have been caught up in a mad scramble for wealth and power. Apparently, the world is drifting for want of strong arms to guide the ships of State through troubled waters. The cry of the hour is for leaders—men who are strong, virile, honest and courageous; men who have vision and high and noble ideals; men who are charitable and peace-loving; men who know the cost of war and desire to bring good rather than evil out of the great struggle.

The American Legion has a splendid field of activity before it. It can not only play a conspicuous part in the future history of America, but it can play an important part in the history of the world. Its accomplishments will be measured only by its aspirations. If the organization does not swerve from its high ideals and worthy purposes, it cannot help but succeed in doing great things.

There is no organization in America that has the unique position of the Legion. In its membership is no East nor West, no North nor South; no Jew nor Gentile, no Protestant nor Catholic; no Capital nor Labor, no Employer nor Employee. It is all of these combined. It is the nearest approach to organized public opinion. Being made up of every part of American society, the Legion will speak public opinion so long as it is fair to every element in its organization and always considers well their needs and the needs of its country.

When Marshall Foch, of France, visited the United States he sent the following farewell message to the American Legion.

"Comrades of the American Legion:

"With deep regret I bid you good-bye. For almost seven weeks the Legion has entertained me marvelously in your splendid country. My experience here leads to two thoughts.

"When first I met you and came to admire you as fighters, cheerful, subject to discipline under your splendid leader, General Pershing, the days were dark indeed. Yet you smiled then as you

fought, and your cheerfulness and bravery helped much to bring us victory and peace.

"When next I met you, it was in your country. The alarms of war were over. You were engaged actively in those pursuits of peace which are so essential to happiness and prosperity—hard work. I have come to love all Americans for their spirit of diligence, for their generous-heartedness. France and the United States are indeed close together, as they have always been.

"These two thoughts—of the American abroad at war, of the American at home and at peace—lead to only one conclusion, that the Americans are young, sturdy, honorable, God-fearing, full of faith and hope; that they are to be admired, respected and trusted by all peoples everywhere.

"And of what type is the representative American of today? The type you find in the American Legion. He is the man who sacrificed all to fight for his flag and world freedom. He is the man who now will see to it that we have "peace on earth, good will toward men."

"We in France are doing our share to keep ourselves worthy of the victory we have won. We know you are doing yours.

"Long live the American people!

"Long live the American Legion!"

Every World War veteran should become a member of the American Legion and take part in its activities. It is only by doing so that he will be

able to help carry on the great tasks before the organization, and the only way he will be able to adequately express himself.

As it has been written, "there shines the emblem of the American Legion. It is your badge of distinction and honor. It stands for God and Country, and the highest rights of man. This little emblem consists of several parts and each part has a meaning. The rays of the sun, that form the background, stand for the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy, dissipating the darkness of violence, strife and evil. The two gold rings around the field of blue, bearing the name of the organization, and the two bronze rings around the wreath, typify its major Allies. The wreath itself is for remembrance. Upon it is set a star reflecting the glory of those who died that liberty might live. That emblem demands that the wearer will ever guard the sanctity of home, free institutions and country. In the emblem of the American Legion there is a great prophecy. It is the promise of the defenders of the Republic bespeaking the fullest good for each in the betterment of all."

There is much for the American Legion to accomplish in Nebraska. It has started well, but there is still much to be done. In every community throughout the state there must stand the Local Post of the American Legion, respected by all citizens, admired by those citizens of tomorrow. It must ever be watchful for the welfare of its community, state and nation, and ever

teach intelligent, constructive patriotism. It must see that the ideals, institutions and traditions of America are ever held dear by all people, and that future generations have the privilege of enjoying our free government. It must ever stand firmly for one country, one flag and one language; it must strive to keep the government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

CHAPTER XIV

Roster of Nebraska Legion Posts and Officers 1919-22

POST NO. 1

**Douglas County Post, Omaha, Organized July 30, 1919,
by Allan A. Tukey.**

Officers: (1919) Allan A. Tukey, Commander; E. K. Hammond, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. E. C. Henry, Commander; E. K. Hammond, Adjutant; (1921) Walter Byrne, Commander; Harry C. Hough, Adjutant; (1922) Samuel Reynolds, Commander; Harry C. Hough, Adjutant.

POST NO. 2

**Kenneth A. Curtis, Tecumseh, Organized August 2, 1919,
by A. B. Cram.**

Officers: (1919) A. B. Cram, Commander; (1920) J. W. Johnson, Commander; John W. Webbe, Adjutant; (1921) J. W. Johnson, Commander; Frank Allen, Adjutant; (1922) Harold S. Halsted, Commander; George Dolph, Adjutant.

POST NO. 3

**Lincoln Post, Lincoln, Organized August 3, 1919, by a
group of ex-service men.**

Officers: (1919) Harry P. Letton, Commander; Ralph P. Wilson, Adjutant; Resigned: Frank B. O'Connell, Commander; Walter L. Anderson, Adjutant; (1920) E. B. Chappell, Commander; C. S. Kittinger, Adjutant; (1921) Geo. Fawell, Jr., Commander; C. S. Kittinger, Adjutant; (1922) B. G. Westover, Commander; C. S. Kittinger, Adjutant.

POST NO. 4

The Fourth Nebraska Post, Hartington, Organized August 5, 1919 by group of ex-service men.

Officers: (1919) Lucien Stark, Commander; Franz C.

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Radke, Adjutant; (1920) Elmer F. Robinson, Commander; Lyman C. Sorenson, Adjutant; (1921) Carl M. Lange, Commander; Harvey R. Sorenson, Adjutant; (1922) Harvey R. Sorenson, Commander; D. K. Bryant, Adjutant.

POST NO. 5

Wright-Irons Post, Scottsbluff, Organized August 5, 1919, by Robert G. Simmons.

Officers: (1919) Robert G. Simmons, Commander; (1920) N. C. Vandemoer, Commander; Carl E. Diers, Adjutant; (1921) N. C. Vandemoer, Commander; A. Orin Schenck, Adjutant; (1922) E. E. Griggs, Commander; O. T. Smith, Adjutant.

POST NO. 6

Lone Tree Post, Central City, Organized August 5, 1919, by Earl E. Boyd.

Officers: (1919) Earl E. Boyd, Commander; (1920) Earl E. Boyd, Commander; Arthur R. Cogswell, Adjutant; (1921) Ralph Demel, Commander; S. A. Ayres, Adjutant; (1922) Floyd Desch, Commander; Ralph Smith, Adjutant.

POST NO. 7

Alliance Post, Alliance, Organized August 5, 1919, by William E. Edwards.

Officers: (1919) J. B. Miller, Commander; William E. Edwards, Adjutant; (1920) E. L. Meyer, Commander; Harold S. Thomas and Joe Farrell, Adjutants; (1921) Dr. Minor Morris, Commander; Joe Williams, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. Minor Morris, Commander; Joe Williams, Adjutant.

POST NO. 8

Adam Schellinger Post, Nebraska City, Organized August 5, 1919, by Earl M. Cline.

Officers: (1919) Frank W. Schwake, Commander; Earl Denniston, Adjutant; (1920) Charles Gude, Commander; Arthur Barstler, Adjutant; (1921) Varro E. Tyler, Commander; C. E. Peck, Adjutant; (1922) Fred Witt, Commander; Lloyd E. Peterson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 9

James Barry Post, Hemmingford, Organized August 5, 1919, by Myrl R. Swanson.

Officers: (1919) Myrl R. Swanson, Commander; V. W. Jenkins, Adjutant; (1920) L. J. Toohey, Commander; Winifred Uhrig, Adjutant; (1921) Fred Cones, Commander; Anthony M. Kuhn, Adjutant; (1922) Harlan D. Wells, Commander; Leo J. Toohey, Adjutant.

POST NO. 10

Evan Powell Post, Morrill, Organized August 5, 1919, by Orlando H. Kearney.

Officers: (1919) Orlando H. Kearney, Commander; David M. McMichael, Adjutant; (1920) Orlando H. Kearney, Commander; L. O. McHenry, Adjutant; (1921) Orlando H. Kearney, Commander; (1922) Orlando H. Kearney, Commander.

POST NO. 11

Hastings Post, Hastings, Organized August 5, 1919, by John A. Lawler.

Officers: (1919) John A. Lawler, Commander; Louis Stevens, Adjutant; (1920) W. H. Brach, Commander; Charles H. Wicker, Adjutant; (1921) Lawrence E. Jones, Commander; H. H. Gedney, Adjutant; (1922) Jas. R. Marshall, Commander; L. K. VanSickle and W. W. Cramer, Adjutants.

POST NO. 12

Bill Dowling Post, Chadron, Organized August 5, 1919, by Sprague O. Smith.

Officers: (1919) Sprague O. Smith, Commander; J. B. Townsend, Adjutant; (1920) Ed Godsell, Commander; J. B. Townsend, Adjutant; (1921) Ed. Birdsall, Commander; J. B. Townsend, Adjutant; (1922) Charles Loewenthal, Commander; Alfred Isham, Adjutant.

POST NO. 13

Earl Davidson, Gresham, Organized August 5, 1919, by Frank C. Williams.

Officers: (1919) Frank C. Williams, Commander; Dr. C. Brittell, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. C. Brittell, Commander; Harry I. Hylton, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. C. Brittell, Commander; F. A. Lindquist, Adjutant; (1922) Tom E. Longdon, Commander; Frank E. Bishop, Adjutant.

POST NO. 14

Reveille Post, Lewellen, Organized August 5, 1919, by C. L. Hooper.

Officers: (1919) Dr. C. L. Hooper, Commander; I. E. Tilgner, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. C. L. Hooper, Commander; I. E. Tilgner, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. C. L. Hooper, Commander; I. E. Tilgner, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. E. H. Ostling, Commander; I. E. Tilgner, Adjutant.

POST NO. 15

Lafrenz Post, Tekamah, Organized August 5, 1919, by Orville Chatt.

Officers: (1919) Orville Chatt, Commander; E. E. Caldwell, Adjutant; (1920) Orville Chatt, Commander; E. E. Caldwell, Adjutant; (1921) Frank W. Houston, Commander; Jonh Cutler, Adjutant; (1922) Frank A. Hutchison, Commander; C. H. Smith, Adjutant.

POST NO. 16

Norfolk Post, Norfolk, Organized August 5, 1919, by Frank A. Warner.

Officers: (1919) Frank A. Warner, Commander; Ray Dovell, Adjutant; (1920) Frank A. Warner, Commander; Leo A. Degner, Adjutant; (1921) Donald Mapes, Commander; John A. Mason, Adjutant; (1922) H. H. Tracy, Commander; A. L. Howser, Adjutant.

POST NO. 17

Sidney Post, Sidney, Organized August 5, 1919, by Paul L. Martin.

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Officers: (1919) Paul L. Martin, Commander; (1920) Paul L. Martin, Commander; Clarence M. Wright, Adjutant; (1921) James T. M. Pearson, Commander; Roy Greenlee, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. R. E. Roche, Commander; C. H. Perry, Adjutant.

POST NO. 18

Cornelius Tillman Post, Hooper, Organized August 11, 1919, by Howard Heine.

Officers: (1919) W. Howard Heine, Commander; C. H. Dahl, Adjutant; (1920) W. Howard Heine, Commander; C. H. Dahl, Adjutant; (1922) T. B. Hauser, Commander; C. H. Dahl, Adjutant; (1922) T. B. Hausey, Commander; Geo. H. Looschen, Adjutant.

POST NO. 19

York Post, York, Organized August 14, 1919, by Dexter D. King.

Officers: (1919) Dexter D. King, Commander; Peter A. Meehan, Adjutant; (1920) Dexter D. King, Commander; Peter A. Meehan, Adjutant; (1921) Peter Meehan, Commander; Clark Pine, Adjutant; (1922) Clyde A. Little, Commander; Clark Pine, Adjutant.

POST NO. 20

Henry Teigeler, Jr., Post, Fremont, Organized August 14, 1919, by Dr. R. T. Van Metre.

Officers: (1919) Frank S. Perkins, Commander; J. M. Sorensen, Adjutant; (1920) E. H. Mahlin, Commander; J. M. Sorensen, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. A. E. Buchanan, Commander; Glenn D. Wintersteen, Adjutant; (1922) Oscar B. Wegner, Commander; Asa K. Lane, Adjutant.

POST NO. 21

Lt. Earl Forbes Post, Fairmont, Organized August 14, 1919, by Dr. M. H. Deffenbaugh.

Officers: (1919) Dr. M. H. Deffenbaugh, Commander; Harvey J. Atwood, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. M. H. Deffen-

baugh, Commander; Harvey J. Atwood, Adjutant; (1921) F. H. Watson, Commander; Harvey J. Atwood, Adjutant; (1922) John S. Dean, Commander; Dr. M. H. Deffenbaugh, Adjutant.

POST NO. 22

Neely Post, Kimball, Organized August 16, 1919, by Dr. Paul Greusel.

Officers: (1919) Dr. Paul Greusel, Commander; Ernest Linn, Adjutant; (1920) Robert J. Maginnis, Commander; C. L. Deitz and Paul Creedon, Adjutants; (1921) Dr. Frank Bonnell, Commander; Leonard Smith and Howard Farr, Adjutants; (1922) Roland V. Rodman, Commander; Howard E. Farr, Adjutant.

POST NO. 23

Auburn Post, Auburn, Organized August 18, 1919, by Otis E. Davis.

Officers: (1919) Lee Kerns, Commander; Paul B. Holmes, Adjutant; (1920) Lee Kerns, Commander; R. A. Curzon, Adjutant; (1921) V. R. Taylor, Commander; R. A. Curzon, Adjutant; (1922) Cooper Ellis, Commander; B. O. Helms, Adjutant.

POST NO. 24

Jefferson County Post, Fairbury, Organized August 18, 1919, by E. S. Goodrich.

Officers: (1919) E. S. Goodrich, Commander; Edwin B. Ackerman, Adjutant; (1920) E. S. Goodrich, Commander; Max J. Shelley, Adjutant; (1921) Henry W. Fouts, Commander; E. D. Bugbee, Adjutant; (1922) Carl Palmberg, Commander; Norris Read, Adjutant.

POST NO. 25

Anderson Post, Wymore, Organized August 18, 1919, by Leonard D. Densmore.

Officers: (1919) Leonard D. Densmore, Commander; Raymond Tumblin, Adjutant; (1920) W. H. Triggs, Commander; Raymond Tumblin, Adjutant; (1921) Herbert F.

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Scheideler, Commander; Gordon A. Jones, Adjutant; (1922) Herbert F. Scheideler, Commander; Jay W. Hayden, Adjutant.

POST NO. 26

Lovell Post, Springfield, Organized August 19, 1919, by Myron F. Wallace.

Officers: (1919) Myron F. Wallace, Commander; (1920) E. G. Kieck, Commander; B. J. Besack, Adjutant; (1921) Elmer R. Witte, Commander; Fred Whitney, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. J. A. Peters, Commander; Frank Comte, Adjutant.

POST NO. 27

Bitting-Norman Post, Beatrice, Organized August 19, 1919, by Charles L. Brewster.

Officers: (1919) J. Ed. C. Fisher, Commander; Ernest L. Kretsinger, Adjutant; (1920) Colin J. Campbell, Commander; Guy Hemminger, Adjutant; (1921) Loren H. Laughlin, Commander; Guy Hemminger, Adjutant; (1922) A. C. Knowles, Commander; Harry Bartick, Adjutant.

POST NO. 28

Charles Roy Bonham Post, Beaver City, Organized August 22, 1919, by C. Ivan Winslow.

Officers: (1919) C. Ivan Winslow, Commander; (1920) Harry B. Hall, Commander; D. O. Jewett, Adjutant; (1921) Paul D. Fleming, Commander; D. O. Jewett, Adjutant; (1922) Edgar B. Blackman, Commander; L. N. Merwin, Adjutant.

POST NO. 29

Roy Johnston Post, Bridgeport, Organized August 23, 1919, by Thomas F. Neighbors.

Officers: (1919) Thomas F. Neighbors, Commander; (1920) Wm. D. Ackerman, Commander; E. W. Tedd, Adjutant; (1921) T. C. Palmer, Resigned; G. F. Johnston, Commanders; (1922) G. F. Johnston, Commander; C. G. Perry, Resigned; E. Smith, Adjutants.

POST NO. 30

Roosevelt Post, Omaha, Organized August 26, 1919, by H. J. Pinkett.

Officers: (1919) H. J. Pinkett, Commander; Andrew T. Reed, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. Amos B. Madison, Commander; R. C. Long, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. Amos B. Madison, Commander; R. C. Long, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. W. W. Peebles, Commander; R. C. Long, Adjutant.

POST NO. 31

Roosevelt Post, North Bend, Organized August 26, 1919, by R. A. Robinson.

Officers: (1919) R. A. Robinson, Commander; H. C. Cusack, Adjutant; (1920) J. Miles Robinson, Commander; H. C. Cusack, Adjutant; (1921) Robert Cheney, Commander; H. C. Cusack, Adjutant; (1922) Russell A. Robinson, Commander; John A. Shaffer, Adjutant.

POST NO. 32

Harry Bessard Post, Papillion, Organized August 29, by Ralston Spearman.

Officers: (1919) Ralston Spearman, Commander; (1920) O. H. Magaret, Commander; Ralston Spearman, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. O. H. Magaret, Commander; Ralston Spearman, Adjutant; (1922) Henry Timme, Commander; Fred W. Megel, Adjutant.

POST NO. 33

Seward Post, Seward, Organized August 29, 1919, by Fred Welsh.

Officers: (1919) Fred Welsh, Commander; A. C. Bek, Adjutant; (1920) Fred Welsh, Commander; A. C. Bek, Adjutant; (1921) Erle Smiley, Commander; A. C. Bek, Adjutant; (1922) Ross E. Gillan, Commander; A. C. Bek, Adjutant.

POST NO. 34

Sturdevant Post, Gordon, Organized August 30, 1919, by Raleigh E. Barker.

Officers: (1919) Raleigh E. Barker, Commander; Dwight P. Griswold, Adjutant; (1920) Wilmer J. Johnson, Commander; Carl S. Williams, Adjutant; (1921) Olin B. Waddill, Commander; Lillian M. Squier, Adjutant; (1922) Harry F. Johnson, Commander; Olin B. Waddill, Adjutant.

POST NO. 35

Jones-Radant Post, Madison, Organized September 3, 1919, by E. J. Moyer.

Officers: (1919) E. J. Moyer, Commander; A. C. Schmidt, Adjutant; (1920) E. J. Moyer, Commander; A. C. Schmidt, Adjutant; (1921) Geo. Kolzow, Commander; A. C. Schmidt, Adjutant; (1922) L. A. Johnson, Commander; A. C. Schmidt, Adjutant.

POST NO. 36

Gering Post, Gering, Organized September 3, 1919, by Wm. H. Heiss.

Officers: (1919) Wm. H. Heiss, Commander; Jesse P. Entrekin, Adjutant; (1920) Lewis E. Cottle, Commander; Jesse P. Entrekin, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. H. O. Jones, Commander; Joel F. Scott, Adjutant; (1922) Richard J. Brown, Commander; Leslie J. Laughlin, Adjutant.

POST NO. 37

William Heater Post, Dawson, Organized September 7, 1919, by Cyril W. Kinsey.

Officers: (1919) C. W. Kinsey, Commander; (1920) Paul Helm, Commander; Clair Liebhart, Adjutant; (1921) C. W. Kinsey, Commander; Floyd Stone, Adjutant; (1922) C. W. Kinsey, Commander; E. N. Southworth, Adjutant.

POST NO. 38

Fidelity Post, Ord, Organized September 7, 1919, by H. O. Hallen.

Officers: (1919) Kirby McGrew, Commander; H. O. Hallen, Adjutant; (1920) Leslie E. Flynn, Commander; Joe Pekar, Adjutant; (1921) Leslie E. Flynn, Commander; Carl C. Dale, Adjutant, Resigned; H. W. Travis, Adjutant; (1922) D. L. Buckles, Commander; H. W. Travis, Adjutant.

POST NO. 40

Perkins County Post, Grant, Organized September 7, 1919, by Harlan P. Blaine.

Officers: (1919) Harlan P. Blaine, Commander; (1920) John V. Beveridge, Commander; John T. Fitzgerald, Adjutant; (1921) John V. Beveridge, Commander; John T. Fitzgerald, Adjutant; (1922) John V. Beveridge, Commander; John T. Fitzgerald, Adjutant.

POST NO. 41

John Lloyd Post, Sumner, Organized September 8, 1919, by F. A. Millhouse.

Officers: (1919) F. A. Millhouse, Commander; (1920) F. A. Millhouse, Commander; (1921) Ralph E. Scoville, Commander; F. A. Millhouse, Adjutant; (1922) Ralph E. Scoville, Commander; F. A. Millhouse, Adjutant.

POST NO. 42

Lester S. Harter Post, Aurora, Organized September 8, 1919, by Arthur M. Hare.

Officers: (1919) Arthur M. Hare, Commander; (1920) John J. Reinhardt, Commander; Arthur M. Hare, Adjutant, Resigned; G. E. Funk, Adjutant; (1921) Paul M. Cozier, Commander; G. E. Funk, Adjutant; (1922) Marion Humphrey, Commander, Resigned; N. P. Peterson, Commander; G. E. Funk, Adjutant, Resigned; J. L. McGuire, Adjutant.

POST NO. 43

Irwin B. Sears Post, Wayne, Organized September 9, 1919, by John T. Bressler, Jr.

Officers: (1919) John T. Bressler, Jr., Commander; (1920) Rev. John W. Beard, Commander; John T. Bressler, Jr., Adjutant; (1921) Carl Madsen, Commander; Leslies W. Ellis, Adjutant; (1922) Carl Madsen, Commander; Paul Harrington, Adjutant.

POST NO. 44

Dan Cox Post, Cedar Rapids, Organized September 11, 1919, by S. S. Hadley.

Officers: (1919) S. S. Hadley, Commander; L. R. Trompeter, Adjutant; (1920) F. D. Burgess, Jr., Commander; Dr. F. A. Jelen, Adjutant; (1921) S. S. Hadley, Commander; L. R. Trompeter, Adjutant; (1922) Frank R. Miller, Commander; Gilbert C. Hack, Adjutant.

POST NO. 46

Oakland Post, Oakland, Organized September 15, 1919, by C. O. Stauffer.

Officers: (1919) C. O. Stauffer, Commander; Raymond Johnson, Adjutant; (1920) Oscar F. Person, Commander; Leonard Benson, Adjutant; (1921) L. R. Benson, Commander; Eros Hanson, Adjutant; (1922) S. A. Swanson, Commander; L. R. Benson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 47

McLeod Post, Schuyler, Organized September 15, 1919, by Dan R. Francis.

Officers: (1919) Dan R. Francis, Commander; E. M. Shonka, Adjutant; (1920) Dan R. Francis, Commander; E. M. Shonka, Adjutant; (1921) Leon Rousar, Commander; Gus Hetmanek, Adjutant; (1922) Milo H. Klobosa, Commander; Geo. F. McKenzie, Adjutant.

POST NO. 48

Burrows Post, Loup City, Organized September 15, 1919, by Ronald F. Rowe.

Officers: (1919) Ronald F. Rowe, Commander; (1920) A. N. Rowe, Commander; Henry Harstman, Adjutant;

(1921) H. A. Line, Commander; Clifford Hale, Adjutant; (1922) Chas. Dinges, Commander; Carl Dietrichs, Adjutant.

POST NO. 49

Utica Post, Utica, Organized September 15, 1919, by ten members.

Officers: (1919) Darrell E. Trump, Commander; U. E. Penisten, Adjutant; (1920) Charles Hurlburt, Commander; U. E. Penisten, Adjutant; (1921) Darrell E. Trump, Commander; U. E. Penisten, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. Korbel, Commander; H. C. Saltow, Adjutant.

POST NO. 50

Leo Thomas Webb Post, Merna, Organized September 15, 1919, by C. C. Robinson.

Officers: (1919) C. C. Robinson, Commander; A. W. Sittler, Adjutant; (1920) H. R. Downey, Commander; C. R. Haines, Adjutant; (1921) H. R. Downey, Commander; Lawrence A. Manning, Adjutant; (1922) Otto C. Blake-man, Commander; Lawrence A. Manning, Adjutant.

POST NO. 51

Robert L. Willis Post, Butte, Organized September 15, 1919, by William M. Krikac.

Officers: (1919) G. C. Thatcher, Commander; William M. Krikac, Adjutant; (1920) G. C. Thatcher, Commander; Lyman T. Willis, Adjutant; (1921) Hubert P. Strong, Commander; G. C. Thatcher, Adjutant; (1922) Harry Fulton, Commander; Wm. M. Krikac, Adjutant.

POST NO. 52

Buffalo County Post, Kearney, Organized September 22, 1919, by Edward P. McDermott.

Officers: (1919) Edward P. McDermott, Commander; (1920) Edward P. McDermott, Commander; Guy W. Haxby, Adjutant; (1921) Henry A. Knutzen, Commander; Chas. R. Wareham, Adjutant; (1922) Henry A. Knutzen, Commander; Chas. R. Wareham, Adjutant.

POST NO. 53

Hall County Post, Grand Island, Organized September 22, 1919, by W. P. Bemis.

Officers: (1919) W. P. Bemis, Commander; T. B. Murray, Adjutant; (1920) F. W. Ashton, Commander; T. B. Murray, Adjutant; (1921) H. A. Princo, Commander; T. B. Murray, Adjutant; (1922) Lawrence Treat, Commander; C. E. Grundy, Adjutant.

POST NO. 54

Laurel Post, Laurel, Organized September 18, 1919, by R. S. Krause.

Officers: (1919) R. S. Krause, Commander; (1920) R. S. Krause, Commander; Walter W. Bennett, Adjutant; (1921) Victor Henry, Commander; E. O. Waite, Adjutant; (1922) F. Pettersen, Commander; Ferdinand Solso, Adjutant.

POST NO. 55

John Rooney Post, Pender, Organized September 22, 1919, by Robert G. Fuhrman.

Officers: (1919) Robert G. Fuhrman, Commander; (1920) Robert G. Fuhrman, Commander; Mark J. Ryan, Adjutant; (1921) H. S. Taylor, Commander; W. A. Moseman, Adjutant; (1922) Albert Anderson, Commander; C. K. Moseman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 56

Hugh J. Kearns Post, Plattsmouth, Organized September 30, 1919, by J. Leonard Meisinger.

Officers: (1919) Frank H. Smith, Commander; Robert Walling and Raymond Larson, Adjutants; (1920) Aubrey H. Duxbury, Commander; Robert Walling, Adjutant; First Half: (1920) William H. Shopp, Commander; Elmer A. Webb, Adjutant; Second Half: (1921) Emil J. Hild, Commander; Elmer A. Webb, Adjutant; (1922) Eugene Lister, Commander; Elmer A. Webb, Adjutant.

POST NO. 58

Claude A. Montgomery Post, Valley, Organized September 30, 1919, by Harry P. Cato.

Officers: (1919) N. E. Johnson Commander; Harry P. Cato, Adjutant; (1920) N. E. Johnson, Commander; Harry P. Cato, Adjutant; (1921) Roland Collen, Commander; Harry G. Johnson, Adjutant; (1922) Lawrence Coy, Commander; G. R. Monteen, Adjutant.

POST NO. 59

Callaway Post, Callaway, Organized September 30, 1919, by Dr. Roy D. Bryson.

Officers: (1919) Roy D. Bryson, Commander; (1920) R. D. Bryson, Commander; Robert E. Moran, Adjutant; (1921) W. F. Haycock, Commander; R. E. Moran, Adjutant; (1922) James C. Overgard, Commander; R. E. Moran, Adjutant.

POST NO. 60

Ryan-McEntaffer Post, Emerson, Organized September 30, 1919, by C. V. Dunn.

Officers: (1919) C. V. Dunn, Commander; W. C. Booth, Adjutant; (1920) C. V. Dunn, Commander; Wm. Ireland, Adjutant; (1921) Roscoe Pearce, Commander; Wm. Ireland, Adjutant; (1922) C. V. Dunn, Commander; Wm. Ireland, Adjutant.

POST NO. 61

Argonne Post, Sutton, Organized September 30, 1919, by J. F. Mercier.

Officers: (1919) J. F. Mercier, Commander; Carl H. Nolde, Adjutant; (1920) C. H. Speer, Commander; Geo. Barnell, Adjutant; (1921) Guy E. Swanson, Commander; Arthur F. Roucher, Adjutant; (1922) H. K. Polson, Commander; J. S. Barbee, Adjutant.

POST NO. 63

Earl Norman Post, Wausa, Organized September 30, 1919, by F. C. Genung.

Officers: (1919) F. C. Genung, Commander; (1920) F. C. Genung, Commander; Ted Larson, Adjutant; (1921) E. L. Swanson, Commander; Fred J. Creutz, Adjutant; (1922) Benjamin F. Johnson, Commander; G. A. Renard, Adjutant.

POST NO. 64

Gothenburg Post, Gothenburg, Organized September 30, 1919, by Carl C. Nelson.

Officers: (1919) E. C. Jones, Commander; C. C. Nelson, Adjutant; (1920) E. C. Jones, Commander; C. C. Nelson, Adjutant; (1921) B. A. Norsworthy, Commander; H. W. Beath, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. C. C. Cundall, Commander; Lloyd Kain, Adjutant.

POST NO. 65

Martin F. Bowles Post, Benkelman, Organized September 30, 1919, by R. E. Moore.

Officers: (1919) E. V. Barger, Commander; R. E. Moore, Adjutant; (1920) E. V. Barger, Commander; R. E. Moore, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. R. Woods, Commander; M. C. Higgins, Adjutant; (1922) Guy E. Presson, Commander; Dr. J. C. Ough, Adjutant.

POST NO. 66

Martin-Horn Post, Holdrege, Organized September 30, 1919, by L. E. Chadderdon.

Officers: (1919) L. E. Chadderdon, Commander; F. W. Jacobi, Adjutant; (1920) George Erickson, Commander; DeForest Swanson, Adjutant; (1921) Harry H. Ellis, Commander; John C. Harbaugh, Adjutant; (1922) G. Royal Hanson, Commander; Fred Jacobi, Adjutant.

POST NO. 67

Carlson Collister Post, Bertrand, Organized September 30, 1919, by James E. McHough.

Officers: (1919) James E. McHough, Commander; V. F. Adams, Adjutant; (1920) Gail Bailly, Commander; H. J.

Rousey, Adjutant; (1921) Gail Baily, Commander; H. J. Rousey, Adjutant; (1922) Lloyd Sherick, Commander; William Walters, Adjutant.

POST NO. 68

Fillmore Post, Geneva, Organized September 30, 1919, by Robert B. Waring.

Officers: (1919) Robert B. Waring, Commander; Chas. Edmond Rock, Adjutant; (1920) D. D. Donovan, Commander; Chas. Edmond Rock, Adjutant; (1921) D. D. Donovan, Commander, Resigned; (1921) Thos. J. Keenan, Commander; Chas. Edmond Rock, Adjutant; (1922) Thos. J. Keenan, Commander; Chas Edmond Rock, Adjutant.

POST NO. 69

William Church Post, Pilger, Organized September 30, 1919, by Herbert F. Theis.

Officers: (1919) Herbert F. Theis, Commander; (1920) Robert M. Patterson, Commander; Leigh E. Bare, Adjutant; (1921) Frank J. Otrdovec, Commander;; Dr. A. E. Johnson, Adjutant; (1922) George Rasmussen, Commander; D. K. Cull, Adjutant.

POST NO. 70

Arthur Mack Post, West Point, Organized September 30, 1919, by Gerald C. Haeffelin.

Officers: (1919) Gerald C. Haeffelin, Commander; Wm. Fegley, Adjutant; (1920) Gerald C. Haeffelin, Commander; Marion B. Stahl, Adjutant; (1921) Gerald C. Haeffelin, Commander; Wm. Knievel, Adjutant; (1922) Casimir Zacek, Commander, Resigned; Fred Thietje, Commander; Chas. R. Korb, Adjutant.

POST NO. 71

Leslie W. Downs Post, Arlington, Organized September 30, 1919, by a group of charter members.

Officers: (1919) John Antrim, Commander; V. V. Marshall, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. Lawrence M. Peterson, Commander; V. V. Marshall, Adjutant; (1921) C. W. Andrews, Commander; H. D. Weber, Adjutant; (1922) R. E. Miller, Commander; John S. Hebard, Adjutant.

POST NO. 72

Pierce Post, Pierce, Organized September 30, 1919, by Harold S. Hoagland.

Officers: (1919) Harold S. Hoagland, Commander; Roy Peters, Adjutant; (1920) D. C. Diebler, Commander; Jas. B. Lacey, Adjutant; (1921) Bruce Boyd, Commander; Roy Peters, Adjutant; (1922) Emil W. Hansen, Commander; H. E. Drebert, Adjutant.

POST NO. 73

Newman Grove Post, Newman Grove, Organized September 30, 1919, by Carl Meyer.

Officers: (1919) Carl Meyer, Commander; (1920) J. W. Sahlstrom, Commander; W. C. Nelson, Adjutant; (1921) J. W. Sahlstrom, Commander; Otto H. Oberg, Adjutant; (1922) H. L. Gerhart, Commander; M. Agnew, Adjutant.

POST NO. 74

Creighton Post, Creighton, Organized October 6, 1919, by Ernest E. Jacobs.

Officers: (1919) Ernest E. Jacobs, Commander; Milton J. Metten, Adjutant; (1920) Ernest E. Jacobs, Commander; Otto Balleweg, Adjutant; (1921) F. E. Smith, Commander; Otto Balleweg, Adjutant; (1922) C. C. Miller, Commander; Roscoe L. Rice, Adjutant.

POST NO. 75

Battle Creek Post, Battle Creek, Organized October 6, 1919, by A. H. Gardels.

Officers: (1919) A. H. Bardels, Commander; Harry W. Doering, Adjutant; (1920) Adolph Koester, Commander; Henry F. Walz, Adjutant; (1921) Adolph Koester, Commander; Henry F. Walz, Adjutant; (1922) Adolph Koester, Commander; Henry F. Walz, Adjutant.

POST NO. 76

Finn L. Nelson Post, Bristow, Organized October 6, 1919, by A. B. Enborg.

Officers: (1919) A. B. Enborg, Commander; (1920) Elbert J. Toft, Commander; A. B. Enborg, Adjutant; (1921) Elbert J. Toft, Commander; A. B. Enborg, Adjutant; (1922) G. E. Toft, Commander; A. B. Enborg, Adjutant.

POST NO. 77

Dawson County Post, Cozad, Organized October 6, 1919, by L. H. Fochtman.

Officers: (1919) L. H. Fochtman, Commander; (1920) L. H. Fochtman, Commander; Dave Stevens, Adjutant; (1921) Earl Godfrey, Commander; Dave Stevens, Adjutant; (1922) Earl Godfrey, Commander; Robt. L. Hart, Adjutant.

POST NO. 78

Luther Whidden Post, Spencer, Organized October 6, 1919, by Geo. A. Racely.

Officers: (1919) Geo. A. Racely, Commander; (1920) Geo. A. Racely, Commander; H. J. Woidneck, Adjutant; (1921) K. A. Hoblit, Commander; H. J. Woidneck, Adjutant; (1922) L. L. Cook, Commander; H. J. Woidneck, Adjutant.

POST NO. 79

Brown County Post, Ainsworth, Organized October 6, 1919, by Ben H. Burritt.

Officers: (1919) Ben H. Burritt, Commander; George Ackerman, Adjutant; (1920) Salem Abraham, Commander; Edwin D. Gideon, Jr., Adjutant; (1921) George C. Kint, Commander; Edwin D. Gideon, Jr., Adjutant; (1922) O. A. Ralston, Commander; Lovell Burley, Adjutant.

POST NO. 80

Foltz-Zuerline Post, Humphrey, Organized October 6, 1919, by Fred A. Lemar.

Officers: (1919) Fred A. Lemar, Commander; Anthony M. Fisher, Adjutant; (1920) F. A. Lemar, Commander;

Anthony M. Fisher, Adjutant; (1921) F. A. Lemar, Commander; Anthony M. Fisher, Adjutant; (1922) F. A. Lemar, Commander; C. A. Lewis, Adjutant.

POST NO. 81

Anton Bokemper Post, Wakefield, Organized October 6, 1919, by H. A. Bowman.

Officers: (1919) Harry G. Borg, Commander; Harold D. Donelson, Adjutant; (1920) Harry G. Borg, Commander; Harold D. Donelson, Adjutant; (1921) Elbert C. Shelling-ton, Commander; Robert F. Hanson, Adjutant; (1922) Milton G. Henry, Commander; Louis F. Leuck, Adjutant.

POST NO. 82

Wahoo Post, Wahoo, Organized October 6, 1919, by W. M. Killian.

Officers: (1919) Dr. Chas. W. Way, Commander; W. M. Killian, Adjutant; (1920) Alex Pringle, Commander; Resigned: Harold M. Walker, Commander; F. J. Kirchman, Adjutant; (1921) Martin Hult, Commander; F. Kirchman, Adjutant; (1922) Floyd P. Fraley, Commander; W. A. Christenson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 83

Harvey Lenig Post, Lyons, Organized October 6, 1919, by Mrs. D. M. Deninson.

Officers: (1919) James B. Edgell, Commander; Park E. Sleister, Adjutant; (1920) Park E. Sleister, Commander; R. V. Tollinger, Adjutant; (1921) Park E. Sleister, Commander; Ralph Willey, Adjutant; (1922) Rudolph Loppnow, Commander; Geo. Osberg, Adjutant.

POST NO. 84

Platte County Post, Columbus, Organized October 31, 1919, by A. W. Frischholz.

Officers: (1919) A. W. Frischholz, Commander; (1920) Dr. Carrol D. Evans, Jr., Commander; Herbert H. Hahn, Adjutant; (1921) Jacob Glur, Commander; Herbert H. Hahn, Adjutant; (1922) Herbert H. Hahn, Commander; Phil R. Hockenburger, Adjutant.

POST NO. 85

Donald D. Schultz Post, Wisner, Organized October 31, 1919, by Clark B. Evans.

Officers: (1919) Clark B. Evans, Commander; John R. Koerber, Adjutant; (1920) Clark B. Evans, Commander; John R. Koerber, Adjutant; (1921) V. E. Armstrong, Commander; W. H. Eaton, Adjutant; (1922) Ray Shirreffs, Commander; Virgil Chambers, Adjutant.

POST NO. 86

John Farley Post, Atkinson, Organized October 31, 1919, by Willard S. Linville.

Officers: (1919) Willard S. Linville, Commander; Harold Dickerson, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. N. P. McKee, Commander; Jos. R. Matousek, Adjutant; (1921) Harold Dickerson, Commander; Geo. W. Blake, Adjutant; (1922) Jos. R. Matousek, Commander; Frank J. Brady, Adjutant.

POST NO. 87

Clay Center Post, Clay Center, Organized October 31, 1919, by Chas. H. Epperson.

Officers: (1919) Frank W. Taylor, Commander; Ward Haylett, Adjutant; (1920) Frank W. Taylor, Commander; Ward Haylett, Adjutant; (1921) Frank W. Taylor, Commander; Dr. I. D. Gartrell, Adjutant; (1922) Harry V. Ellis, Commander; Ivan J. Richert, Adjutant.

POST NO. 88

Stanton Post, Stanton, Organized October 31, 1919, by Geo. A. Eberly.

Officers: (1919) Geo. A. Eberly, Commander; (1920) Father John Palubicki, Commander; Nathan B. Pont, Adjutant; (1921) Father John Palubicki, Commander; R. C. Hoehne, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. C. D. Palmer, Commander; C. B. McMahon, Adjutant.

POST NO. 89

Lester E. Stewart Post, Walthill, Organized October 31, 1919, by R. A. Phillips.

Officers: (1919) R. A. Phillips, Commander; James Griffiths, Adjutant; (1920) Geo. F. McMullen, Commander; Harry L. Keefe, Adjutant; (1921) Geo. F. McMullen, Commander; Harry L. Keefe, Adjutant; (1922) Sidney Robinson, Commander; W. W. Dingwall, Adjutant.

POST NO. 90

Leo Brinda Post, Valentine, Organized October 31, 1919, by W. B. Haley.

Officers: (1919) W. B. Haley, Commander; L. L. Brosius, Adjutant; (1920) W. B. Haley, Commander; L. L. Brosius, Adjutant; (1921) E. W. Cohota, Commander; Floyd C. McKean, Adjutant; (1922) W. B. Haley, Commander; R. L. Jobes, Adjutant.

POST NO. 91

William Wolfe Post, Osceola, Organized October 31, 1919, by Fred W. Schuman.

Officers: (1919) Fred W. Shuman, Commander; W. Alvan Campbell, Adjutant; (1920) R. G. Douglas, Commander; W. Alvan Campbell, Adjutant; (1921) T. V. Hamilton, Commander; Fred W. Schuman, Adjutant; (1922) John Magnuson, Commander; Perl E. Sickles, Adjutant.

POST NO. 92

Chase County Post, Imperial, Organized October 31, 1919, by R. M. Roderifels.

Officers: (1919) R. M. Roderifels, Commander; (1920) Bruce Cunningham, Commander; Dr. Geo. Hoffmeister, Adjutant; (1921) Kenneth Smith, Commander; W. O. Percy, Adjutant; (1922) Kenneth R. Smith, Commander; Archie Smith, Adjutant.

POST NO. 93

Simonson Post, O'Neill, Organized October 31, 1919, by Edward H. Whelan.

Officers: (1919) Edward H. Whelan, Commander; Frank D. Harnish, Adjutant; (1920) E. H. Whelan, Commander; Frank D. Harnish, Adjutant; (1921) Clear C. Golden, Commander; Lee A. Weekes, Adjutant; (1922) Frank J. O'Connell, Commander; Ira H. Moss, Adjutant.

POST NO. 94

Minden Post, Minden, Organized October 31, 1919, by J. M. Markussen.

Officers: (1919) J. M. Markussen, Commander; Dave M. McMicheal, Adjutant; (1920) David M. McMicheal, Commander; Alfred I. Petersen, Adjutant; (1921) Alfred I. Petersen, Commander; Clyde F. Greene, Adjutant; (1922) Alfred I. Petersen, Commander; Clyde F. Greene, Adjutant.

POST NO. 95

Carl Heath Post, Curtis, Organized November 6, 1919, by C. K. Morse.

Officers: (1919) C. K. Morse, Commander; H. P. Schaeffer, Adjutant; (1920) C. K. Morse, Commander; H. P. Schaeffer, Adjutant; (1921) E. J. Schroeder, Commander; Dr. M. C. Babington, Adjutant; (1922) A. F. Stephenson, Commander; E. F. Bobbio, Adjutant.

POST NO. 96

Arapahoe Post, Arapahoe, Organized November 6, 1919, by George Proud.

Officers: (1919) George Proud, Commander; (1920) Clarence L. Benjamin, Commander; Milton R. Cox, Adjutant; (1921) Rev. Andrew O. Dodge, Commander; Milton R. Cox, Adjutant; (1922) Everett Denman, Commander; Milton R. Cox, Adjutant.

POST NO. 97

Buckland Post, Homer, Organized November 6, 1919, by E. N. Swett.

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Officers: (1919) E. N. Swett, Commander; Leo. Wagner, Adjutant; (1920) D. B. Stidworthy, Commander; E. N. Swett, Adjutant; (1921) Glen Dunlap, Commander; E. C. Fox, Adjutant; (1922) Glen Dunlap, Commander; A. E. Thacker, Adjutant.

POST NO. 98

Charles McCracken Post, Springview, Organized November 6, 1919, by A. J. Courshon.

Officers: (1919) A. J. Courshon, Commander; P. M. Lawton, Adjutant; (1921) Bert Stone, Commander; J. P. Noel, Adjutant; (1922) J. P. Noel, Commander; Geo. C. Daniels, Adjutant.

POST NO. 99

Rathbun-Fehrs Post, Belgrade, Organized November 6, 1919, by Leo A. DeLaney.

Officers: (1919) Leo A. DeLaney, Commander; (1920) L. A. DeLaney, Commander; Joe Delaney, Adjutant; (1921) L. A. DeLaney, Commander; Joe Delaney, Adjutant; (1922) L. A. DeLaney, Commander; Joe DeLaney, Adjutant.

POST NO. 100

Massie-Richards Post, Syracuse, Organized November 6, 1919, by F. H. Reuter.

Officers: (1919) F. H. Reuter, Commander; (1920) Ray S. True, Commander; Eugene Pratt, Adjutant; (1921) W. Keithley, Commander; H. H. Amende, Adjutant; (1922) F. H. Reuter, Commander; Arthur Dinges, Adjutant.

POST NO. 101

Louis Post, Wilber, Organized November 6, 1919, by Sidney L. Broz.

Officers: (1919) Fred Shimerda, Commander; Bud Dodson, Adjutant; (1920) Fred Shimerda, Commander; Fred Barta, Adjutant; (1921) Fred Shimerda, Commander; Stanley Hoffman, Adjutant; (1922) Clarence Grimm, Commander; Stanley Hoffman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 102

Falls City Post, Falls City, Organized November 6, 1919, by Oscar F. Lang.

Officers: (1919) Oscar F. Lang, Commander; (1920) E. K. Hurst, Commander; Dearle Baker, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. R. W. Fouts, Commander; W. L. Bohrer, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. H. Miner, Commander; Ronald Kingsley, Adjutant.

POST NO. 103

St. Mihiel Post, Superior, Organized November 6, 1919, by William W. Akers.

Officers: (1919) William W. Akers, Commander; Chas. G. Hout, Adjutant; (1920) F. A. Lyman, Commander; Chas. G. Hout, Adjutant; (1921) Ernest Hayes, Commander; H. G. Fuller, Adjutant; (1922) Oswin Keifer, Commander; Roland, Hoagland, Adjutant.

POST NO. 104

Fred Cram Memorial Post, Sargent, Organized November 6, 1919, by LeRoy Armstrong.

Officers: (1919) LeRoy Armstrong, Commander; (1920) J. P. Murray, Commander; Roy Scott, Adjutant; (1921) Rex E. Myers, Commander; J. D. Vose, Adjutant; (1922) Harold Grint, Commander; John Nelson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 105

Grafton Post, Grafton, Organized November 6, 1919, by G. W. Hildreth.

Officers: (1919) G. W. Hildreth, Commander; (1920) G. W. Hildreth, Commander; Peter Keenan, Adjutant; (1921) G. W. Hildreth, Commander; Peter Keenan, Adjutant; (1922) G. W. Hildreth, Commander; Peter Keenan, Adjutant.

POST NO. 106

LaFayette Post, Oakdale, Organized November 6, 1919, by E. R. Frady.

Officers: (1919) E. R. Frady, Commander; E. L. Wel-

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burn, Adjutant; (1921) E. R. Frady, Commander; E. L. Welburn, Adjutant; (1922) E. R. Frady, Commander; Hobert E. McKeehan, Adjutant.

POST NO. 107

Victor Andrew Tracy Post, Elk Creek, Organized November 6, 1919, by Cecil W. Clark.

Officers: (1919) Cecil W. Clark, Commander; (1920) Cecil W. Clark, Commander; Floyd E. Hoke, Adjutant; (1921) Wm. F. York, Commander; Floyd E. Hoke, Adjutant; (1922) Cecil W. Clark, Commander; Floyd E. Hoke, Adjutant.

POST NO. 108

Ashton Post, Ashton, Organized November 6, 1919, by I. A. Polski.

Officers: (1919) I. A. Polski, Commander; (1920) I. A. Polski, Commander; Leon R. Beza, Adjutant; (1921) Leon R. Beza, Commander; I. A. Polski, Adjutant; (1922) Leon R. Beza, Commander; George L. Polski, Adjutant.

POST NO. 109

Mullen Post, Mullen, Organized November 6, 1919, by W. R. Tucker.

Officers: (1919) W. R. Tucker, Commander; (1920) W. R. Tucker, Commander; Ben F. Hammer, Adjutant; (1921) Clarence E. Pecht, Commander; Ben F. Hammer, Adjutant; (1922) R. C. Franke, Commander; A. R. McNeas, Adjutant; Resigned: Paul R. Ritchey, Adjutant.

POST NO. 110

Patrick Post, Rosalie, Organized November 6, 1919, by Victor M. Young.

Officers: (1919) Victor M. Young, Commander; H. N. Aldrich, Adjutant; (1920) V. M. Young, Commander; H. N. Aldrich, Adjutant; (1921) G. M. Rundquist, Commander; R. L. Mason, Adjutant; (1922) Harold W. Hurst, Commander; R. L. Mason, Adjutant.

POST NO. 111

Lannig Post, Lexington, Organized November 6, 1919, by Merton O. Bates.

Officers: (1919) Edward A. Cook, Commander; Ben C. Neff, Adjutant; (1920) Edward A. Cook, Commander; Ben C. Neff, Adjutant; (1921) Ora L. McKee, Commander; Merton O. Bates, Adjutant; (1922) Wm. E. Pfeiffer, Commander; L. E. Hock, Adjutant.

POST NO. 112

Sioux Post, Harrison, Organized November 6, 1919, by Dee P. Davis.

Officers: (1919) Dee P. Davis, Commander; Jesse L. Gerlach, Adjutant; (1920) Dee P. Davis, Commander; Jesse L. Gerlach, Adjutant; (1920) Jesse L. Gerlach, Commander; Dee P. Davis, Adjutant; (1922) James A. McClarey, Commander; Philip H. Unitt, Adjutant.

POST NO. 113

Dee Wilson Post, Randolph, Organized November 6, 1919, by Bert F. Gleason.

Officers: (1919) Bert F. Gleason, Commander; Ivil K. Fleury, Adjutant; (1920) S. S. Gibson, Commander; Ivil K. Fleury, Adjutant; (1921) S. S. Gibson, Commander; F. N. Coash, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. G. E. Peters, Commander; A. E. Leclair, Adjutant.

POST NO. 114

Carl Korff Post, Coleridge, Organized November 6, 1919, by John L. Bridenbaugh.

Officers: (1919) John L. Bridenbaugh, Commander; Andrew C. Paulsen, Adjutant; (1920) Glen Wellington, Commander; Andrew C. Paulsen, Adjutant; (1921) Carl W. Ritchie, Commander; W. E. Smith, Adjutant; (1922) Claude Peck, Commander; L. D. Hunter, Adjutant.

POST NO. 115

Harvey Norton Post, Stuart, Organized November 6, 1919, by C. W. Gladhill.

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Officers: (1919) B. V. McDermott, Commander; D. K. Stuart, Adjutant; (1920) B. V. McDermott, Commander; D. K. Stuart, Adjutant; (1921) Dale Stuart, Commander; P. D. Armstrong, Adjutant; (1922) Earl Chaney, Commander; P. D. Armstrong, Adjutant.

POST NO. 117

Chapelle Post, Ponca, Organized November 19, 1919, by C. A. Westran.

Officers: (1919) C. A. Westran, Commander; (1920) Harold M. Mahoney, Commander; C. A. Westran, Adjutant; (1921) C. A. Westran, Commander; (1922) Harold M. Mahoney, Commander; Harold M. Mahoney, Acting Adjutant.

POST NO. 118

Fay Cady Post, Alma, Organized November 19, 1919, by W. C. Bartlett.

Officers: (1919) W. C. Bartlett, Commander; E. E. McKee, Adjutant; (1920) Frank Jackson, Commander; E. E. McKee, Adjutant; (1921) Charles A. Davis, Commander; E. E. McKee, Adjutant; (1922) Charles A. Davis, Commander; E. E. McKee, Adjutant.

POST NO. 119

Carl Mogensen Post, St. Paul, Organized November 19, 1919, by William F. Spikes.

Officers: (1919) Carlos E. Arterburn, Commander; William F. Spikes, Adjutant; (1920) Carlos E. Arterburn, Commander; Wm. F. Spikes, Adjutant; (1921) Ed. Bartle, Commander; Robert Armstrong, Adjutant; (1922) Ed. Bartle, Commander; Robert Armstrong, Adjutant.

POST NO. 120

Burton-Beyer Post, Palmer, Organized November 19, 1919, by G. O. Van Meter.

Officers: (1919) G. O. Van Meter, Commander; Buren Wells, Adjutant; (1920) George Urquart, Commander; G.

O. Van Meter, Adjutant; (1921) Crede Newlon, Commander; Clarence A. Greenway, Adjutant; (1922) T. A. Tibbetts, Commander; T. W. Anderson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 121

Jay Wormwood Post, Scribner, Organized November 7, 1919, by Peter L. Bauer.

Officers: (1919) Peter L. Bauer, Commander; (1920) Peter L. Bauer, Commander; E. H. Robertson, Adjutant; (1921) John Beaver, Commander; E. D. Shomshor, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. B. G. Davis, Commander; John Steel, Adjutant.

POST NO. 122

Lewis Cerv Post, Dodge, Organized December 15, 1919, by Wm. L. Weidner.

Officers: (1919) Wm. L. Weidner, Commander; Victor Johnston, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. Roy Ludden, Commander; Victor Johnston, Adjutant; (1921) Albert J. Clement, Commander; Wm. L. Weidner, Adjutant; (1922) Wm. Weidner, Commander; Chas. A. Vrba, Adjutant.

POST NO. 123

Bassett Post, Bassett, Organized December 15, 1919, by C. A. Jeffrey.

Officers: (1919) C. A. Jeffrey, Commander; (1920) K. L. Ludwig, Commander; W. F. Shrimpton, Adjutant; (1921) Robert B. Antrim, Commander; Fred Jungman, Adjutant; (1922) Jess Van Norman, Commander; Harvey Berry, Adjutant.

POST NO. 124

Michie-McKeown Post, Mitchell, Organized December 15, 1919, by Archie B. Jones.

Officers: (1919) Archie B. Jones, Commander; V. E. Hubbell, Adjutant; (1920) Archie B. Jones, Commander; V. E. Hubbell, Adjutant; (1921) Frank J. Read, Commander; R. S. Eastman, Adjutant; (1922) J. A. Lane, Commander; R. S. Eastman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 125

Kregger Post, David City, Organized December 15, 1919, by W. E. Hall.

Officers: (1919) W. E. Hall, Commander; W. W. Hughes, Adjutant; (1920) W. E. Hall, Commander; W. W. Hughes, Adjutant; (1921) W. E. Hall, Commander; Marvin W. Murphy, Adjutant; (1922) Marion Shaw, Commander; Resigned: Albion Ohlsen, Commander; Harry Crouse, Adjutant.

POST NO. 126

Joseph R. Palmer Post, Broken Bow, Organized December 15, 1919, by Chester A. Chrisman.

Officers: (1919) Chester A. Chrisman, Commander; Theo. Koefoot, Adjutant; (1920) Dwight Porter, Commander; G. D. Lesslie, Adjutant; (1921) Ervin J. Haeblerle, Commander; Clarence I. Dunning, Adjutant; (1922) Wingate M. Foster, Commander; Clarence I. Dunning, Adjutant.

POST NO. 127

Swen H. Peterson Post, Craig, Organized December 15, 1919, by Harry O. Erwin.

Officers: (1919) H. H. Linn, Commander; Harry O. Erwin, Adjutant; (1920) H. H. Linn, Commander; Harry O. Erwin, Adjutant; (1921) H. H. Linn, Commander; Harry O. Erwin, Adjutant; (1922) Henry Eriksen, Commander; Reuben Monson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 128

Tucker-Brown-Everton Post, Crofton, Organized December 15, 1919, by Arthur O. Nelson.

Officers: (1919) Arthur O. Nelson, Commander; (1920) Arthur O. Nelson, Commander; A. F. Kube, Adjutant; (1921) R. E. L. West, Commander; Arthur O. Nelson, Adjutant; (1922) O. D. Salley, Commander; Arthur O. Nelson, Adjutant.

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POST NO. 129

Edgar O. Jarman Post, Ashland, Organized December 15, 1919, by E. L. C. Gilmore.

Officers: (1919) E. L. C. Gilmore, Commander; (1920) E. L. C. Gilmore, Commander; F. E. Bee, Adjutant; (1921) Carl Bornig, Commander; E. L. C. Gilmore, Adjutant; (1922) John Butler, Commander; C. H. Bornig, Adjutant.

POST NO. 130

Wm. A. Layton Post, Arnold, Organized December 15, 1919, by A. G. Cleveland.

Officers: (1919) A. G. Cleveland, Commander; Clarence L. Dunn, Adjutant; (1920) Clarence L. Dunn, Commander; Geo. H. Hass, Adjutant; (1921) Ralph Miller, Commander; L. S. Beltz, Adjutant; (1922) Vernon O. Tubbs, Commander; Lloyd S. Beltz, Adjutant.

POST NO. 132

Stromsburg Post, Stromsburg, Organized December 15, 1919, by George H. Lake.

Officers: (1919) George H. Lake, Commander; (1920) Ralph E. Ericson, Commander; Carl T. Moline, Adjutant; (1921) R. A. Freeman, Commander; R. L. Anderson, Adjutant; (1922) R. A. Freeman, Commander; R. L. Anderson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 133

Adam Miller Post, Culbertson, Organized December 15, 1919, by Arthur G. Johnson.

Officers: (1919) Arthur G. Johnson, Commander; B. M. Kirk, Adjutant; (1920) Arthur G. Johnson, Commander; B. M. Kirk, Adjutant; (1921) Arthur G. Johnson, Commander; Resigned: Joe Crews, Commander; F. W. Eisenhart, Adjutant; (1922) Floyd M. Covert, Commander; C. H. Swanson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 134

Plum Creek Post, Johnstown. Organized December 15, 1919, by Fred L. Valentine.

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Officers: (1919) Fred L. Valentine, Commander; (1920) Fred L. Valentine, Commander; Geo. H. Brandel, Adjutant; (1921) Fred L. Valentine, Commander; Geo. H. Brandel, Adjutant; (1922) Oscar Honnen, Commander; Fred L. Valentine, Adjutant.

POST NO. 135

William Kilgore Post, Ogallala, Organized December 16, 1919, by C. C. Wallingsford.

Officers: (1919) C. C. Wallingsford, Commander; Philip T. Smith, Adjutant; (1920) C. C. Wallingsford, Commander; Philip T. Smith, Adjutant; (1921) Charles Girmann, Commander; Herbert Nye, Adjutant; (1922) Cecil Lynn, Commander; O. W. Percy, Adjutant.

POST NO. 136

Edward Pruss Post, Snyder, Organized December 16, 1919, by Charles J. Kovarik.

Officers: (1919) Charles J. Kovarik, Commander; (1920) Charles J. Kovarik, Commander; Harry Fredricks, Adjutant; (1921) Charles J. Kovarik, Commander; Harry Fredricks, Adjutant; (1922) Charles J. Kovarik, Commander; Harry Fredricks, Adjutant.

POST NO. 137

Farnsworth Post, Litchfield, Organized December 17, 1919, by H. E. Boecking.

Officers: (1919) H. E. Boecking, Commander; B. H. Achenbach, Adjutant; (1920) H. E. Boecking, Commander; B. H. Achenbach, Adjutant; (1921) Ed. Boecking, Commander; J. E. Humphrey and Geo. Work, Adjutants; (1922) Eugene Work, Commander; John F. Halbeison, Adjutant.

POST NO. 138

Arch Cullers Post, Crawford, Organized December 17, 1919, by F. Andrew Diehl.

Officers: (1919) Otto Percy, Commander; F. Andrew Diehl, Adjutant; (1920) A. A. Lindeman, Commander; Vern Wiggins, Adjutant; (1921) Cecil W. Lyons, Com-

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mander; Harvey W. Taylor, Adjutant; (1922) Cecil W. Lyons, Commander; Harvey W. Taylor, Adjutant.

POST NO. 139

Turnbull Post, Minatare, Organized December 20, 1919, by Fred W. Harshman.

Officers: (1919) Fred W. Harshman, Commander; (1920) Archie Z. Myers, Commander; Fred W. Harshman, Adjutant; (1921) Leo J. Shumacher, Commander; Oscar E. Nelson, Adjutant; (1922) C. D. Youmans, Commander; W. L. Townsend, Adjutant.

POST NO. 140

Harm Sangen Post, Sterling, Organized December 20, 1919, by A. W. Tobias.

Officers: (1919) A. W. Tobias, Commander; (1920) Conrad C. Imelman, Commander; Maxwell Tucker, Adjutant; (1921) B. B. Smith, Commander; Maxwell Tucker, Adjutant; (1922) Ernest Rawson, Commander; Kenneth Tyler, Adjutant.

POST NO. 141

G. P. Cather Post, Bladen, Organized December 20, 1919, by Ferdinand Fisher.

Officers: (1919) Ferdinand Fisher, Commander; (1920) Ferdinand Fisher, Commander; L. S. Easterly, Adjutant; (1921) Glen L. Denton, Commander; L. S. Easterly, Adjutant; (1922) Ferdinand Fisher, Commander; Wm. F. Ruschke, Adjutant.

POST NO. 142

Paul Coffman Post, Mason City, Organized December 20, 1919, by James C. Nelson.

Officers: (1919) James C. Nelson, Commander; (1920) James C. Nelson and Wayne Coxon, Commanders; Carl Jackson, Adjutant; (1921) M. G. Weaver, Commander; F. M. O'Brien, Adjutant; (1922) Guy Dady, Commander; Roy J. Banning, Adjutant.

POST NO. 144

Edward H. Larson Post, Genoa, Organized December 31, 1919, by C. L. Mathews.

Officers: (1919) C. L. Mathews, Commander; L. O. Fitch, Adjutant; (1920) Dr. H. Davis and Chas. H. Anderson, Commanders; C. M. Stenberg, Adjutant; (1921) Roy W. Bruce, Commander; C. M. Stenberg, Adjutant; (1922) Roy W. Bruce, Commander; Chas. J. Lawson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 145

Hartt Post, Bloomington, Organized December 31, 1919, by Guy W. Green.

Officers: (1919) Guy W. Green, Commander; L. C. Waring, Adjutant; (1920) Guy W. Green, Commander; L. C. Waring, Adjutant; (1921) Guy W. Green, Commander; L. C. Waring, Adjutant; (1922) J. A. Callen, Commander; L. C. Waring, Adjutant.

POST NO. 146

John Saylor Post, Rising City, Organized December 31, 1919, by L. C. Stoker.

Officers: (1919) L. C. Stoker, Commander; Alfred E. Stafford, Adjutant; (1920) C. Stoker, Commander; Alfred E. Stafford, Adjutant; (1921) C. B. Barker, Commander; Homer Kimberly, Adjutant; (1922) Alfred E. Stafford, Commander; Geo. P. Gregory, Adjutant.

POST NO. 147

Crete Post, Crete, Organized December 31, 1919, by C. J. Fuhrer.

Officers: (1919) C. J. Fuhrer, Commander; Edward F. Forst, Adjutant; (1920) C. J. Fuhrer, Commander; Edward F. Forst, Adjutant; (1921) Anton Plouzek, Commander; Edward F. Forst, Adjutant; (1922) John Mekota, Commander; Resigned: Port A. Johnson, Commander; Louis Kerst, Adjutant.

POST NO. 148

Claire Fryer Post, Plainview, Organized January 6, 1920, by Dr. A. A. Eddingfield.

Officers: (1920) Wurter W. Kirk and Dr. A. A. Eddingfield, Commanders; George Gould, Adjutant; (1921) E. C. Schoeuaner, Commander; Carl S. Carrell, Adjutant; (1922) Ray C. Chase, Commander; Carl S. Carrell, Adjutant.

POST NO. 149

Alderson Post, Belden, Organized January 6, 1920, by D. S. Griesel.

Officers: (1920) D. S. Griesel, Commander; W. F. Wright, Adjutant; (1921) Chris Roth, Commander; D. S. Griesel, Adjutant; (1922) Ralph Middleton, Commander; Harvey L. McLain, Adjutant.

POST NO. 150

Reuben Beck Post, Scotia, Organized January 6, 1920, by Harry G. Selk.

Officers: (1920) Harry G. Selk, Commander; C. Frandsen, Adjutant; (1921) Roy Horner, Commander; Henry W. Stoetzel, Adjutant; (1922) Chester A. Krebs, Commander; Gus E. Lambert, Adjutant.

POST NO. 151

Fred Philbrick Post, Fullerton, Organized January 6, 1920, by Roy E. Hall.

Officers: (1920) Roy E. Hall, Commander; E. M. Black, Adjutant; (1921) E. M. Black, Commander; I. C. Shawhan, Adjutant; (1922) Delbert Clark, Commander; Keith Trotter, Adjutant.

POST NO. 152

Chester Parsons Post, Wilsonville, Organized January 6, 1920, by Forrest W. Bird.

Officers: (1920) Clifford H. Smith, Commander; Rolland Larmon, Adjutant; (1921) Wendell I. Gross, Commander; Rolland Larmon, Adjutant; (1922) Clifford H. Smith, Commander; Rolland Larmon, Adjutant.

POST NO. 153

Stuckey-Rhodes-Amsberry Post, Ansley, Organized January 6, 1920, by Claude B. Hoover.

Officers: (1920) Norman Spalding, Commander; William C. Humphrey, Adjutant; (1921) C. B. Hoover, Commander; Norman Spalding, Adjutant; (1922) C. C. Hoover, Commander; Norman Spalding, Adjutant.

POST NO. 154

Stanley E. Hain Post, Blair, Organized January 6, 1920, by L. J. Kilian.

Officers: (1920) L. J. Kilian, Commander; Ernest R. Brock, Adjutant; (1921) C. J. Schmidt, Commander; Reed O'Hanlon, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. D. C. Peebles, Commander; Lyle Reeh, Adjutant.

POST NO. 155

Albin Folda Post, Howells, Organized January 6, 1920, by Dr. J. A. Tamsiea.

Officers: (1920) Jos. P. Fiala, Commander; Ed. Iwansky, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. J. A. Tamsiea, Commander; Edward Iwansky, Adjutant; (1922) Edward Iwansky, Commander; Anton Knipping, Adjutant.

POST NO. 156

Burchard Post, Burchard. Organized January 6, 1920, by Charles R. Gooddale.

Officers: (1920) Chester R. Borden, Commander; Clay E. Cox, Adjutant; (1921) Glenn Leitschuck, Commander; Clay E. Cox, Adjutant; (1922) Chas. R. Gooddale, Commander; Clay E. Cox, Adjutant.

POST NO. 157

Nehawka Post, Nehawka, Organized January 6, 1920, by Walter J. Wunderlich.

Officers: (1920) Walter J. Wunderlich, Commander; James W. Thomas, Adjutant; (1921) Hall A. Pollard, Commander; James W. Thomas, Adjutant; (1922) Marion N. Tucker, Commander; Alfred C. Anderson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 158

Ernest Stuehrk Post, Cedar Bluffs, Organized January 15, 1920, by R. D. Smit.

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Officers: (1920) R. D. Smit, Commander; Lynn D. Miller, Adjutant; (1921) R. D. Smit, Commander; Lynn D. Miller, Adjutant; (1922) Lloyd Whitney, Commander; Andrew Gabriel, Adjutant.

POST NO. 159

Hetrick Post, Wilcox, Organized January 15, 1920, by Joseph A. McGowan.

Officers: (1920) Paul E. Doherty, Commander; A. M. Bang, Adjutant; (1921) A. M. Bang, Commander; Otto Scherer, Adjutant; (1922) A. M. Bang, Commander; Otto Scherer, Adjutant.

POST NO. 160

Samuel R. Wilcox Post, Polk, Organized January 15, 1920, by Bert Bay.

Officers: (1920) Bert Bay, Commander; S. Shafer, Adjutant; (1921) Frank Anderson, Commander; N. T. Rakestraw, Adjutant; (1922) Frank Anderson, Commander; N. T. Rakestraw, Adjutant.

POST NO. 161

Davis Post, Rushville, Organized January 15, 1920, by Geo. F. Jansen.

Officers: (1920) Charles W. Brown, Commander; Geo. B. Wilson, Adjutant; (1921) Geo. B. Wilson, Commander; Jerome Ward, Adjutant; (1922) Martin J. Janssen, Commander; Jerome Ward, Adjutant.

POST NO. 162

Manderson Lehr Post, Albion, Organized January 15, 1920, by R. D. Flory.

Officers: (1920) M. P. Higgins, Commander; Harry E. Halstead, Adjutant; (1921) W. P. Higgins, Commander; L. J. Fox, Adjutant; (1922) Harry E. Halstead, Commander; Victor E. Fritton, Adjutant.

POST NO. 163

North Platte Post, North Platte, Organized January 15, 1920, by V. H. Halligan and H. A. Langford.

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Officers: (1920) R. O. Macintosh, Commander; F. J. Sandall, Adjutant; (1921) Everett H. Evans, Commander; Ernest W. Rincker, Adjutant; (1922) C. A. Selby, Commander; Chas. Leth, Adjutant.

POST NO. 164

Shickley Post, Shickley, Organized January 15, 1920, by Royce L. Strayer.

Officers: (1920) Floyd Swanson, Commander; Royce L. Strayer, Adjutant; (1921) Otto S. Larson, Commander; Oscar L. Larson, Adjutant; (1922) Jacob J. Van Waning, Commander; Elmer L. Bradley, Adjutant.

POST NO. 165

Lyons Post, Carroll, Organized January 15, 1920, by Elmer A. Jones.

Officers: (1920) Elmer A. Jones, Commander; William O. Smith, Adjutant; (1921) John J. Thielen, Commander; G. K. Allensworth, Adjutant; (1922) Rodney Garwood, Commander; Roy A. Carter, Adjutant.

POST NO. 166

Van-Dain-Nic Post, Davenport, Organized January 15, 1920, by Harry R. Row.

Officers: (1920) Harry R. Row, Commander; Eph. G. Miller, Adjutant; (1921) W. C. Uphouse, Commander; Floyd W. Row, Adjutant; (1922) Floyd W. Row, Commander; John Voight, Adjutant.

POST NO. 167

Hilmer Anderson Post, Axtell, Organized January 15, 1920, by Paul E. Exstrom.

Officers: (1920) Paul E. Exstrom, Commander; Carl A. Anderson, Adjutant; (1921) Hal B. Alsid, Commander; Carl A. Anderson, Adjutant; (1922) John Popple, Commander; Paul E. Exstrom, Adjutant.

POST NO. 168

Thomas Little Post, Pawnee City, Organized January 15, 1920, by Jas. A. Daugherty, Jr.

Officers: (1920) Jas. A. Daugherty, Jr., Commander; C. R. Bigelow, Adjutant; (1921) Jas. A. Daugherty, Jr., Commander; C. R. Bigelow, Adjutant; (1922) Jas. Young, Commander; Wayne Eckard, Adjutant.

POST NO. 170

Edwin Heninger Post, Tilden, Organized February 6, 1920, by Roy L. Ashburn.

Officers: (1920) Dr. C. F. Adams, Commander; D. D. Maassen, Adjutant; (1921) D. D. Maassen, Commander; E. H. Schumacher, Adjutant; (1922) Roy L. Ashburn, Commander; E. H. Schumacher, Adjutant.

POST NO. 171

Milford Post, Milford, Organized February 6, 1920, by James G. Muir.

Officers: (1920) James G. Muir, Commander; W. J. Eigsti, Adjutant; (1921) James G. Muir, Commander; Edward E. Ely, Adjutant; (1922) Edward E. Ely, Commander; Paul G. Moorberg, Adjutant.

POST NO. 172

Antelope Post, Neligh, Organized February 6, 1920, by A. H. Schmidt.

Officers: (1920) E. T. Best, Jr., Commander; A. H. Schmidt, Adjutant; (1921) A. A. Bukacek, Commander; H. D. Fletcher, Adjutant; (1922) Walter B. Bradley, Commander; A. J. Sellery, Adjutant.

POST NO. 173

Greenwood Post, Greenwood, Organized March 10, 1920, by P. L. Hall, Jr.

Officers: (1920) P. L. Hall, Jr., Commander; Earl I. Stradley, Adjutant; (1921) H. W. McFadden, Commander; Walter Burke, Adjutant; (1922) Earl Stradley, Commander; John Weatherhogg, Adjutant.

POST NO. 174

Alvin Londrosh Post, Winnebago, Organized March 10, 1920, by E. M. Hoar.

Officers: (1920) John T. Ashford, Commander; John J. Costello, Adjutant; (1921) J. J. Costello, Commander; E. M. Hoar and L. J. Neibuhr, Adjutants; (1922) Harold A. Londrosh, Commander; Lawrence J. Neibuhr, Adjutant.

POST NO. 176

A. L. Shirley Post, Blue Hill, Organized March 10, 1920, by Raymond L. Robinson.

Officers: (1920) Raymond L. Robinson, Commander; Fred W. Seibrass, Adjutant; (1921) Edgar McBride, Commander; O. H. Martin, Adjutant; Fred C. Herold, Assistant Adjutant; (1922) Albert Bang, Commander; Edgar McBride, Adjutant; Resigned: Bruce Laird, Adjutant.

POST NO. 177

Frank Schinck Post, Meadow Grove. Organized March 10, 1920, by Wilbur A. Kirkpatrick.

Officers: (1920) Wilbur A. Kirkpatrick, Commander; D. M. Hayden, Adjutant; (1921) Jesse G. Hogsett, Commander; Reed K. Anstine, Adjutant; (1922) R. E. Crook, Commander; Reed K. Anstine, Adjutant.

POST NO. 178

Holmes Post, Beaver Crossing, Organized March 10, 1920, by Owen Nye Clark.

Officers: (1920) Owen Nye Clark, Commander; Carol H. Barnes, Adjutant; (1921) Clarence Tyrrell, Commander; Earle I. Horner, Adjutant; (1922) Clarence Tyrrell, Commander; Earle I. Horner, Adjutant.

POST NO. 179

Rodney Soper Post, Hardy. Organized March 10, 1920, by Leon T. Gillilan.

Officers: (1920) Leon T. Gillilan, Commander; Paul D. Wheeler, Adjutant; (1921) Karl J. Buyan, Commander; C. C. Cramer, Adjutant; (1922) L. J. Wehrman, Commander; Carl Morgison, Adjutant.

POST NO. 180

Saxton Post, Hebron, Organized March 10, 1920, by W. F. Powell.

Officers: (1920) Tillman C. Lane, Commander; Rudolph F. Decker, Adjutant; (1921) Harvey W. Hess, Commander; Harry Schilling, Adjutant; (1922) Albert J. Nacke, Commander; Jas. M. Cottrell, Jr., Adjutant.

POST NO. 181

Fort McPherson Post, Maxwell, Organized March 10, 1920, by H. B. Olson.

Officers: (1920) M. L. Chappell, Commander; I. E. Hart, Adjutant; (1921) H. B. Olson, Commander; F. F. Dolan, Adjutant; (1922) H. B. Olson, Commander; F. F. Dolan, Adjutant.

POST NO. 182

Paul Phelps Post, Peru, Organized March 10, 1920, by B. L. Shellhorn.

Officers: (1920) B. L. Shellhorn, Commander; F. L. Sharrer, Adjutant; (1921) O. T. Gabel, Commander; L. E. Jewell, Adjutant; (1922) D. D. Stonecypher, Commander; Carroll Lewis, Adjutant.

POST NO. 183

Ford Banka Post, Friend, Organized March 10, 1920, by Chris Haberman.

Officers: (1920) Chris Haberman, Commander; Phil O. Southwick, Adjutant; (1921) Chris Haberman, Commander; M. L. McFarlane, Adjutant; (1922) Alexander Rhone, Commander; Walter Howarth, Adjutant.

POST NO. 184

Harold Morin Post, Orleans, Organized March 10, 1920, by J. P. Feese.

Officers: (1920) J. P. Feese, Commander; Richard A. Russell, Adjutant; (1921) J. P. Feese, Commander; Richard A. Russell, Adjutant; (1922) Wm. J. Schumacher, Commander; John A. Landgreen, Adjutant.

POST NO. 185

Harvard Post, Harvard, Organized March 10, 1920, by R. F. Engelhardt.

Officers: (1920) R. H. Freutz, Commander; R. F. Engelhardt, Adjutant; (1921) Carl North, Commander; Geo. W. Miller, Adjutant; (1922) Geo. W. Miller, Commander; Hugh Turner, Adjutant.

POST NO. 186

Charles E. Martin Post, Greeley, Organized March 10, 1920, by Dr. E. A. Doyle.

Officers: (1920) Dr. E. A. Doyle, Commander; A. C. McCarthy, Adjutant; (1921) C. L. Taylor, Commander; John Scott, Adjutant; (1922) William P. Luse, Commander; E. J. Bowen, Adjutant.

POST NO. 187

Eren N. Geran Post, Nelson, Organized March 10, 1920, by Jacob I. Peebler.

Officers: (1920) Orin L. Goodrich, Commander; Wilford Bottenfield, Adjutant; (1921) Robert H. Moore, Commander; Francis L. Tripp, Adjutant; (1922) Robert H. Moore, Commander; Ben L. Stahl, Adjutant.

POST NO. 188

Vitek Post, Clarkson. Organized March 10, 1920, by Emil F. Klobosa.

Officers: (1920) R. V. Prokop, Commander; O. W. Hahn, Adjutant; (1921) Albert J. O'Brien, Commander; Joseph Makousky, Adjutant; (1922) Richard Karel, Commander; G. B. Fayman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 189

Art Grey Post, Tryon, Organized March 10, 1920, by group of ex-service men.

Officers: (1920) R. C. Conroy, Commander; I. C. Zenor, Adjutant; (1921) W. E. Van Meter, Commander; Lisle Pyzer, Adjutant; (1922) Mart Mathers, Commander; L. N. Pyzer, Adjutant; Ruel Conroy, Assistant Adjutant.

POST NO. 190

Eric Sayre Post, Waterbury, Organized March 10, 1920, by Charles E. Legg.

Officers: (1920) Charles E. Legg, Commander; Evan W. Surher, Adjutant; (1921) Charles E. Legg, Commander; Evan W. Surher, Adjutant; (1922) Charles E. Legg, Commander; Evan W. Surher, Adjutant.

POST NO. 191

Fletcher Farly Post, Bancroft, Organized March 10, 1920, by Edward J. Tighe.

Officers: (1920) Edward J. Tighe, Commander; John McCarthy, Adjutant; (1921) Arthur A. Koepnick, Commander; John McCarthy, Adjutant; (1922) Albert L. Carlberg, Commander; John McCarthy, Adjutant.

POST NO. 192

Verner A. Baird Post, Brunswick, Organized March 10, 1920, by J. G. Vaughan.

Officers: (1920) David H. Frost, Commander; R. A. Dawson, Adjutant; (1921) Harry C. Hagedorn, Commander; J. G. Vaughan, Adjutant; (1922) Milo E. Taylor, Commander; James E. Barrett, Adjutant.

POST NO. 193

Franklin Post, Ohioa, Organized March 10, 1920, by William L. Domeier.

Officers: (1920) William L. Domeier, Commander; W. H. Weiss, Adjutant; (1921) William L. Domeier, Commander; W. H. Weiss, Adjutant; (1922) William L. Domeier, Commander; W. H. Weiss, Adjutant.

POST NO. 194

Loyalty Post, Alexandria. Organized March 10, 1920, by Mack Hubbard.

Officers: (1920) Mack Hubbard, Commander; Richard Dill, Adjutant; (1921) Chas. Baker, Commander; Louie Wittenberger, Adjutant; (1922) Chas. S. Cane, Commander; Richard Dill, Adjutant.

POST NO. 195

Nash-Jensen Post, Palmyra, Organized March 10, 1920,
by T. R. Bartley.

Officers: (1920) T. R. Bartley, Commander; Ralph L. McKee, Adjutant; (1921) Harold Newton, Commander; Stanley McKee, Adjutant; (1922) Guy Jones, Commander; Tom Manhart, Resigned; A. J. Lamborn, Adjutant.

POST NO. 196

L. Noble Lund Post, Uehling, Organized March 10, 1920,
by Jack C. Wells.

Officers: (1920) Jack C. Wells, Commander; Harold T. Uehling, Adjutant; (1921) Jack C. Wells, Commander; Harold T. Uehling, Adjutant; (1922) G. Earl James, Commander; W. H. Larson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 197

Foster-Porter Post, Crookston, Organized March 10, 1920, by R. H. Von Kessel.

Officers: (1920) Lou K. Musser, Commander; R. H. VonKessel, Adjutant; (1921) R. H. VonKessel, Commander; Mike Sedlacek, Adjutant; (1922) J. Lloyd Sisler, Commander; Lou K. Musser, Adjutant.

POST NO. 198

Beck-Heath Post, Wallace, Organized March 10, 1920,
by E. J. Eames, Jr.

Officers: (1920) E. J. Eames, Jr., Commander; R. E. Cowles, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. J. C. Newman, Commander; R. E. Cowles, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. J. C. Newman, Commander; Dr. H. B. Applegate, Adjutant.

POST NO. 199

Cambridge Post, Cambridge, Organized March 10, 1920,
by Chas. O'Connor.

Officers: (1920) Dr. F. H. McCabe, Commander; Chas. O'Connor, Adjutant; (1921) Thos. Minnick, Commander; Chas. V. Chadwick, Adjutant; (1922) T. J. Houghnon, Commander; C. V. Chadwick, Adjutant.

POST NO. 200

Earl T. Amsberry Post, Bayard, Organized March 10, 1920, by H. L. Karrer.

Officers: (1920) A. E. Klemke, Commander; V. R. Askine, Adjutant; (1921) Yale H. Cavett, Commander; P. M. Silsby, Adjutant; (1922) John D. Johnson, Commander; P. M. Silsby, Adjutant.

POST NO. 201

Schipman-Mogensen Post, Boelus, Organized March 10, 1920, by Harry Ericksen.

Officers: (1920) Harry Ericksen, Commander; John W. Sorensen, Adjutant; (1921) C. H. Hansen, Commander; John W. Sorensen, Adjutant; (1922) G. H. Kenyon, Commander; Harry Ericksen, Adjutant.

POST NO. 202

Ralph A. Piper Post, Wood Lake, Organized March 10, 1920, by W. E. Hanna.

Officers: (1920) W. E. Hanna, Commander; J. F. Morris, Adjutant; (1921) W. E. Hanna, Commander; J. F. Morris, Adjutant; (1922) C. E. Day, Commander; John G. Kirkman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 203

Chris Hansen Post, McCook, Organized March 10, 1920, by Roy J. Bayless.

Officers: (1920) Roy J. Bayless, Commander; (1921) H. M. Bell, Commander; E. G. Speaks, Adjutant; (1922) J. F. Holms, Commander; Ray Harr, Adjutant.

POST NO. 204

Frank Carroll Post, Lynch, Organized March 10, 1920, by Charles C. Carroll and Dr. J. C. Devine.

Officers: (1920) Charles C. Carroll and Dr. J. C. Devine, Commanders; G. R. Heun, Adjutant; (1921) Charles C. Carroll, Commander; Harry Hurless, Adjutant; (1922) Lou H. Sedlacek, Commander; Dr. J. C. Devine, Adjutant.

POST NO. 206

Taylor-Kennedy-Kaneafsky Post, Elsie, Organized March 10, 1920, by Matt J. McGahan.

Officers: (1920) Matt J. McGahan, Commander; Ambrose B. Casey, Adjutant; (1921) Matt J. McGahan, Commander; Ambrose B. Casey, Adjutant; (1922) Frank B. O'Connor, Commander; Roy Carothers, Adjutant.

POST NO. 207

Arthur Post, Arthur, Organized March 10, 1920, by William Crouse.

Officers: (1920) William Crouse, Commander; K. W. Barber, Adjutant; (1921) William Crouse, Commander; K. W. Barber, Adjutant; (1922) William Crouse, Commander; George A. Grimshaw, Adjutant.

POST NO. 208

Otto V. Johnson Post, Sutherland, Organized March 10, 1920, by Earle R. Spaulding.

Officers: (1920) E. R. Spaulding, Commander; H. H. Wallsworth, Adjutant; (1921) E. R. Spaulding, Commander; H. H. Wallsworth, Adjutant; (1922) V. A. Kessler, Commander; E. R. Spaulding, Adjutant.

POST NO. 209

Anno Sanger Post, Franklin. Organized March 10, 1920, by Noble M. Johnson.

Officers: (1920) Roy W. Moffett, Commander; Noble M. Johnson, Adjutant; (1921) Roy W. Moffett, Commander; Noble M. Johnson, Adjutant; (1922) Charles Spence, Commander; Chas. E. Cook, Adjutant.

POST NO. 210

Shaw-Jeppson Post, Oshkosh, Organized March 10, 1920, by Walter D. Stroud.

Officers: (1920) I. P. Armstrong, Commander; Walter D. Stroud, Adjutant; (1921) J. C. Schlater, Commander; J. L. Shanks, Adjutant; (1922) Ray Mong, Commander; R. D. Naslaund, Adjutant.

POST NO. 211

Mac-Sax-Stone Post, Belvidere, Organized March 10, 1920, by Wm. I. Tripp.

Officers: (1920) Wm. I. Tripp, Commander; L. S. Murphy, Adjutant; (1921) Wm. I. Tripp, Commander; L. S. Murphy, Adjutant; (1922) John W. David, Commander; Alfred E. Cowdin, Adjutant.

POST NO. 212

Hawes-Wood Post, DeWitt, Organized March 10, 1920, by Dr. George A. Balderson.

Officers: (1920) George A. Balderson, Commander; A. F. Burger, Adjutant; (1921) George A. Balderson, Commander; Cecil E. Carey, Adjutant; (1922) Charles Wood, Commander; Thomas Carey, Adjutant.

POST NO. 213

Benhart Post, Taylor, Organized March 10, 1920, by Theo. Cheesman.

Officers: (1920) Theo. Cheesman, Commander; Henry M. Cummings, Adjutant; (1921) Theo. Chessman, Commander; John F. Myers, Adjutant; (1922) Theo. Cheesman, Commander; John F. Myers, Adjutant.

POST NO. 214

Sanders Post, Ewing, Organized March 10, 1920, by F. J. Waugh.

Officers: (1920) F. J. Waugh, Commander; H. P. Person, Adjutant; (1921) O. W. French, Commander; H. P. Person, Adjutant; (1922) Ira J. Napier, Commander; Lyle P. Dierks, Adjutant.

POST NO. 215

Rogers Crum Post, Decatur, Organized March 10, 1920, by Fred A. Byram.

Officers: (1920) Charles A. Rogers, Commander; J. R. Whulock, Adjutant; Resigned: H. C. Larson, Adjutant; (1921) Charles A. Rogers, Commander; H. C. Larson, Adjutant; (1922) Charles A. Rogers, Commander; H. C. Larson, Adjutant.

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POST NO. 216

Leonard Conley Post, Gretna, Organized March 10, 1920, by Charles C. Nepky.

Officers: (1920) Charles C. Nepky, Commander; Herman Schneider, Adjutant; (1921) B. H. Zimmerman, Commander; Herman Schneider, Adjutant; (1922) John W. Monahan, Commander; Edward P. Weeth, Adjutant.

POST NO. 217

Clinton McAuliffe Post, Chappell, Organized March 10, 1920, by E. W. Scott.

Officers: (1920) (1921) Ben F. Brown, Commander; W. K. Triplett, Adjutant; (1922) W. E. Zehr, Commander; R. M. Robbins, Adjutant.

POST NO. 218

Wm. Sullivan Post, Exeter, Organized March 10, 1920, by W. S. Olexa.

Officers: (1920) Karl F. E. Wegener, Commander; Chas. F. Tous, Adjutant; (1921) H. V. Ingram, Commander; Edward H. Stech, Adjutant; (1922) Clark Crane, Commander; Chas. Hammerand, Adjutant.

POST NO. 219

Oxford Post, Oxford, Organized March 10, 1920, by Roy C. Bendler.

Officers: (1920) Roy C. Bendler, Commander; Fred P. Neilson, Adjutant; (1921) W. J. Nissen, Commander; M. E. Cadwallader, Adjutant; (1922) B. F. Haffey, Commander; Resigned: Dr. C. E. Davis, Commander; M. E. Cadwallader, Adjutant.

POST NO. 220

Roger West Post, Comstock, Organized March 10, 1920, by Elwood E. Wimmer.

Officers: (1920) Elwood E. Wimmer, Commander; Cecil D. Wardrop, Adjutant; (1921) Elwood E. Wimmer, Commander; Cecil D. Wardrop, Adjutant; (1922) Stanley V. Emry, Commander; Cecil D. Wardrop, Adjutant.

POST NO. 221

Frederick-Steidley Post, Adams, Organized March 10, 1920, by Francis M. Swartwood.

Officers: (1920) Dr. F. M. Swartwood, Commander; C. F. Reckewey, Adjutant; (1921) Merle Foster, Commander; C. F. Reckewey, Adjutant; (1922) Everett DeBoer, Commander; Kenneth Upton, Adjutant.

POST NO. 222

Lee Horn Post, Shubert, Organized March 10, 1920, by Howard A. Riggs.

Officers: (1920) Howard A. Riggs, Commander; R. H. Boatman, Adjutant; (1921) Howard A. Riggs, Commander; R. H. Boatman, Adjutant; (1922) Howard A. Riggs, Commander; R. H. Boatman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 223

David R. Morgan Post, Verdel, Organized March 10, 1920, by Fred E. Kaplan.

Officers: (1920) Leonard H. Black, Commander; Fred E. Kaplan, Adjutant; (1921) Leonard H. Black, Commander; Fred E. Kaplan, Adjutant; Resigned: Louis Zoubek, Adjutant; (1922) Frank McClintock, Commander; Sam Zoubek, Adjutant.

POST NO. 224

Frank Greiner Post, Niobrara, Organized March 10, 1920, by John D. Forsyth.

Officers: (1920) John D. Forsyth, Commander; (1921) John D. Forsyth, Commander; (1922) Jonothan Stevens, Commander; John D. Forsyth, Adjutant.

POST NO. 225.

Hedglin-Welliver Post, Eddyville, Organized March 10, 1920, by Rex J. Frolky.

Officers: (1920) Rex J. Frolky, Commander; Leo Cunningham, Adjutant; (1921) Rex J. Frolky, Commander; Leo Cunningham, Adjutant; (1922) Rex J. Frolky, Commander; Leo Cunningham, Adjutant.

POST NO. 226.

Crosier Post, St. Edward, Organized March 10, 1920, by Alvin E. Peterson.

Officers: (1920) Alvin E. Peterson, Commander; Robert F. Kennedy, Adjutant; (1921) Arnold E. Hasselbalch, Commander; Frank S. Lightner, Adjutant; (1922) A. E. Hasselbalch, Commander; Frank S. Lightner, Adjutant.

POST NO. 227.

Martfeldt Post, Newport, Organized March 10, 1920 by Frank B. Cononica.

Officers: (1920) Henry I. Jones, Commander; G. E. Hammer, Adjutant; (1921) Harold Widaman, Commander; W. A. Cosgrove, Adjutant; (1922) Charles T. Riley, Commander; Henry I. Jones, Adjutant.

POST NO. 228.

John Rooney-Frank Pallas, Jr. Post, Thurston, Organized March 10, 1920 by Iler C. Jensen.

Officers: (1920) Iler C. Jensen Commander; (1921) Iler C. Jensen, Commander. (1922) Iler C. Jensen, Commander.

POST NO. 229.

Elgin Post, Elgin, Organized March 10, 1920 by Henry B. McCampbell.

Officers: (1920) Lewis H. Lehr, Commander; Henry B. McCampbell, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. J. D. McCarthy, Commander; H. B. McCampbell, Adjutant; (1922) Fred Brunke, Commander; Dr. D. S. Hinman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 230.

Thedford Post, Thedford, Organized March 18, 1920, by Willard J. Lynch.

Officers: (1920) Willard J. Lynch, Commander; (1921) Willard J. Lynch, Commander; (1922) Willard J. Lynch, Commander.

POST NO. 231.

Homer A. Armstrong Post, Odell, Organized March 18, 1920, by Raymond J. Larson.

Officers: (1920) John S. Callan, Commander; Raymond J. Larson, Adjutant; (1921) Frank J. Bures, Commander; Louis Vehraska, Adjutant; (1922) Henry G. Kock, Commander; Fred C. Benson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 232.

Arthur Adolphson Post, Malmo, Organized March 18, 1920 by Gustave Houfek.

Officers: (1920) Lawrence Potadle, Commander; Gustave Houfek, Adjutant; (1921) H. J. Holtorf, Commander; Gustave Houfek, Adjutant; (1922) James Nalazinek, Commander; Joseph Jenny, Adjutant.

POST NO. 233.

Stamford Post, Stamford, Organized March 31, 1920, by E. W. Davis.

Officers: (1920) L. R. Aggson, Commander; F. W. Davis, Adjutant; (1921) F. Caffrey, Commander; M. R. Lane, Adjutant; (1922) Commander F. W. Davis, W. H. Williams, Adjutant.

POST NO. 234.

Earl J. Roggensee Post, Holbrook, Organized March 31, 1920, by Vance C. Smith.

Officers: (1920) Jesse P. Wade, Commander; Sam F. Curry, Adjutant; (1921) Jesse P. Wade, Commander; Sam F. Curry, Adjutant; (1922) Ross J. Snyder, Commander; Sam F. Curry, Adjutant.

POST NO. 236.

Ray Mapes Post, Wolbach, Organized March 31, 1920, by Arden D. Lawhead.

Officers: (1920) Arden D. Lawhead, Commander; (1921) Eddie Wight, Commander; A. J. Sawicki, Adjutant; (1922) Eddie Wight, Commander; A. J. Sawicki, Adjutant.

POST NO. 237.

Harold Marshall Post, Weeping Water, Organized March 31, 1920, by W. L. Hobson.

Officers: (1920) Chas. R. Baker, Commander; Chas. V. Wallick, Adjutant; (1921) W. L. Russell, Commander; Henry Mogensen, Adjutant; (1922) Sam J. Baker, Commander; John Cole, Adjutant.

POST NO. 238.

Red Cloud Post, Red Cloud, Organized March 31, 1920, by A. B. McArthur.

Officers: (1920) Dr. R. S. Mitchell, Commander; A. B. McArthur, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. R. S. Mitchell, Commander; Resigned: R. S. Martin, Commander; A. B. McArthur, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. R. S. Martin, Commander; A. B. McArthur, Adjutant.

POST NO. 239.

Hay Springs Post, Hay Springs, Organized March 31, 1920, by Gib McCreath.

Officers: (1920) Claude Sheffner, Commander; Grover Riley, Adjutant; (1921) Boyd Morey, Commander; Joe V. Tulloss, Adjutant; (1922) Boyd Morey, Commander; Joe V. Tulloss, Adjutant.

POST NO. 240.

H. S. S. K. Post, Milligan, Organized March 31, 1920, by Joseph J. Klima.

Officers: (1920) Joseph Bors, Commander; Joseph J. Klima, Adjutant; (1921) Alois Petracek, Commander; James F. Kassik, Adjutant; (1922) John H. Kotas, Commander; Edward F. Laun, Adjutant.

POST NO. 241.

Michelsen-Lankowsky Post, Dannebrog, Organized April 2, 1920, by Ole Jacobsen.

Officers: (1920) L. C. Crow, Commander; Ole Jacobsen, Adjutant; (1921) L. C. Crow, Commander; Ole Jacobsen, Adjutant; (1922) L. C. Crow, Commander; Runholdt Christensen, Adjutant.

POST NO. 242.

Kolling Post, Ruskin, Organized April 3, 1920, by Clarence Mickleson.

Officers: (1920) Dr. R. P. Pierce, Commander; C. Glenn Magee, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. R. P. Pierce, Commander; R. M. Grimes, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. R. P. Pierce, Commander; R. M. Grimes, Adjutant.

POST NO. 243.

Shonsey Post, Clarks, Organized April 3, 1920, by Harold M. Morse.

Officers: (1920) Michael B. Douglas, Commander; Walter Chamberlin, Jr., Adjutant; (1921) Michael B. Douglas, Commander; Walter Chamberlin, Jr., Adjutant; (1922) Michael G. Shonsey, Commander; Harold M. Morse, Adjutant.

POST NO. 244.

Ceresco Post, Ceresco, Organized April 8, 1920, by Phil A. Nelson.

Officers: (1920) Phil A. Nelson, Commander; Martin Trued, Adjutant; (1921) Merle J. Clemens, Commander; Garfield Moline, Adjutant; (1922) Richard Peterson, Commander; Elmer Johnson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 245.

Bartley Post, Bartley, Organized April 8, 1920, by W. F. Cochran.

Officers: (1920) W. F. Cochran, Commander; Carl P. Jones, Adjutant; (1921) W. F. Cochran, Commander; Carl P. Jones, Adjutant; (1922) Henry Damm, Commander; Claud Blair, Adjutant.

POST NO. 246.

Bryan Holtgrewe Post, Talmage, Organized April 8, 1920, by Alwin A. Misegadis.

Officers: (1920) Alwin A. Misegadis, Commander; Geo. J. Fritz, Adjutant; (1921) Conrad Sherstad, Commander; Geo. J. Fritz, Adjutant; (1922) John Milton, Commander; Alwin A. Misegadis, Adjutant.

POST NO. 247.

Frisbe-Eidermiller Post, Elmwood, Organized April 15, 1920, by Emmet J. Cook.

Officers: (1920) Emmet J. Cook, Commander; O. D. Clements, Adjutant; (1921) Joseph A. Capwell, Commander; John Turner, Adjutant; (1922) Joseph A. Capwell, Commander; John E. Turner, Adjutant.

POST NO. 248.

Warren-Fletcher Post, Edgar, Organized April 15, 1920, by James J. Nesbitt.

Officers: (1920) R. T. Jones, Commander; Paul E. Hattan, Adjutant; (1921) Tyndal Story, Commander; Resigned: Paul E. Hattan, Commander; Chas E. Moore, Adjutant; (1922) Percy Gunn, Commander; A. D. Squires, Adjutant.

POST NO. 249.

Ray Lamb Post, Bloomfield, Organized April 26, 1920, by Walter P. Hiebenthal.

Officers: (1920) James H. Mettlen, Commander; Walter P. Hiebenthal, Adjutant; (1921) Roy B. Gould, Commander; Resigned: F. A. Boysen, Commander; August T. Peters, Adjutant; (1922) Henry C. Hodges, Commander; Dale W. Reynolds, Adjutant.

POST NO. 250.

Sunset Post, Oconto, Organized April 26, 1920, by Geo. Mary, Jr.

Officers: (1920) Geo. Mary, Commander; C. A. Kleiber, Adjutant; (1921) C. A. Kleiber, Commander; Troy J. Fonda, Adjutant; (1922) C. A. Kleiber, Commander; Charles Harrison, Adjutant.

POST NO. 251.

Arcadia Post, Arcadia, Organized April 26, 1920, by Harold J. Weadel.

Officers: (1920) Harold D. Weadel, Commander; Geo. A. Clason, Adjutant; (1921) Harold D. Weadel, Commander; M. R. Wall, Adjutant; (1922) George A. Clason, Commander; Dr. F. H. Christ, Adjutant.

POST NO. 252.

Roy Reed Post, Winside, Organized April 26, 1920, by Frank Wilson.

Officers: (1920) Frank Wilson, Comander; Roy A. Carter, Adjutant; (1921) Frank Wilson, Commander; Edwin W. Damme, Adjutant; (1922) Christ Nelson, Jr., Commander; Edwin W. Damme, Adjutant.

POST NO. 254.

Prague Post, Prague, Organized April 26, 1920, by A. F. Vasina.

Officers: (1920) Adolph E. Kaspear, Commander; A. F. Vasina, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. A. W. Bohaboy, Commander; Earl E. Baum, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. A. W. Bohaboy, Commander; Earl E. Baum, Adjutant.

POST NO. 255.

Silas Kitto Post, Santee, Organized April 30, 1920, by Carl E. Carson.

Officers: (1920) Carl E. Carson, Commander; Joe P. Robinette, Adjutant; (1921) Carl E. Carson, Commander; Joe P. Robinette, Adjutant; (1922) Carl E. Carson, Commander; Joe P. Robinette.

POST NO. 256

Lewis-Trobough Post, Fairfield, Organized April 30, 1920, by Roland H. Potter.

Officers: (1920) Harry Wheeler, Commander; Rolland H. Potter, Adjutant; (1921) Harry Wheeler, Commander; Roland H. Potter, Adjutant; (1922) Gaylord T. Pattoss, Commander; Ralph Hoevet, Adjutant.

POST NO. 257.

Edwin Benjamine Zwink Post, Eustis, Organized April 30, 1920, by Paul W. Schroeder.

Officers: (1920) Paul W. Schroeder, Commander; L. W. Gauger, Adjutant; (1921) Wilber C. Mackey, Commander; L. W. Gauger, Adjutant; (1922) Dale Wagner, Commander; Otto Hueftle, Adjutant.

POST NO. 258.

Rennie Post, Swanton, Organized May 3, 1920, by Gail E. Staley.

Officers: (1920) Bert F. Wiest, Commander; Dwight R. Ellermeier, Adjutant; (1921) Gail E. Staley, Commander; Dwight R. Ellermeier, Adjutant; (1922) Anton Sedlacek, Commander; Resigned: Miles Pospisil, Commander; D. R. Ellermeier, Adjutant.

POST NO. 259.

Verdigre Post, Verdigre, Organized May 12, 1920, by H. E. Hartson.

Officers: (1920) J. R. Newman, Commander; Phil Runion, Adjutant; (1921) Phil Runion, Commander; Henry Hrbek, Adjutant; (1922) P. P. Runion, Commander; Henry Hrbek, Adjutant.

POST NO. 260.

Pine Post, Long Pine, Organized May 12, 1920, by Ted L. Hummel, Wm. Meadows and L. O. Shaneyfelt.

Officers: (1920) Wm. Meadow, Commander; H. J. Albertsen, Adjutant; (1920) Calvin R. Brown, Commander; Ward L. Jacox, Adjutant; (1922) Calvin R. Brown, Commander; Lyle O. Shaneyfelt, Adjutant.

POST NO. 261.

Rotherham Post, Lindsay, Organized May 12, 1920, by Commander; W. F. Svoboda, Adjutant.

Officers: (1920) Geo. H. Busselman, Commander; W. F. Svoboda, Adjutant; (1921) Geo. H. Busselman, Commander; W. F. Svoboda, Adjutant; (1922) Geo. H. Busselman, Commander; W. F. Svoboda, Adjutant.

POST NO. 262

Clare Reade Post, Nora, Organized May 17, 1920, by Claud S. Lanham.

Officers: (1920) Claud S. Lanham, Commander; Lloyd Boersma, Adjutant; (1921) Fred R. Kelly, Commander; Carl Efly, Adjutant; (1922) Henry Michaub, Commander; Claud S. Lanham, Adjutant.

POST NO. 263

Golden Day Post, Chester, Organized May 24, 1920, by Ernest L. Achen.

Officers: (1920) E. L. Achen, Commander; Ralph W. Wilson, Adjutant; (1921) E. J. Horner, Commander; E. L. Achen, Adjutant; (1922) Avril Z. Thomas, Commander; Oren Norman, Adjutant.

POST NO. 264

August Post, Dorchester, Organized June 4, 1920, by N. P. Hansen.

Officers: (1920) Dr. H. P. Hansen, Commander; F. R. Mares, Adjutant; (1921) Dr. H. P. Hansen, Commander; F. R. Mares, Adjutant; (1922) Emil F. Hromas, Commander; Frank R. Mares, Adjutant.

POST NO. 265

Brock Post, Brock, Organized June 4, 1920, by George E. Harpham.

Officers: (1920) George E. Harpham, Commander; (1921) George E. Harpham, Commander; (1922) George E. Harpham, Commander.

POST NO. 266

Erickson Post, Bennington, Organized June 6, 1920, by Tim Ohrt.

Officers: (1920) Tim Ohrt, Commander; Walter Mangold, Adjutant; (1921) Tim Ohrt, Commander; Walter Mangold, Adjutant; (1922) Tim Ohrt, Commander; Walter Mangold, Adjutant.

POST NO. 267

McVay Redding Post, Clearwater, Organized June 11, 1920, by Fred L. Mitchell.

Officers: (1920) Fred L. Mitchell, Commander; Clyde C. Wells, Adjutant; (1921) Fred L. Mitchell, Commander; Clyde C. Wells, Adjutant; (1922) B. D. Brown, Commander; Noel Seney, Adjutant.

POST NO. 269

Humboldt Post, Humboldt, Organized June 13, 1920, by Thomas Steele.

Officers: (1920) Thomas Steele, Commander; Dean E. Snethen, Adjutant; (1921) Ross E. Morris, Commander; Alois W. Fredlick, Adjutant; (1922) Ross E. Morris, Commander; Alois W. Fredlick, Adjutant.

POST No. 270

Mette Reed Post, Venango, Organized July 8, 1920, by Martin M. Johnson.

Officers: (1920) Martin M. Johnson, Commander; (1921) Martin M. Johnson, Commander; (1922) Chas. Novak, Commander; R. E. Walker, Adjutant.

POST NO. 271

Howard Hilton Post, Madrid, Organized September 27, 1920, by Leslie L. Kunkel.

Officers: (1920) Jay B. Worley, Commander; Harold L. Kunkel, Adjutant; (1921) Leslie L. Kunkel, Commander; H. L. Kunkel, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. R. A. Young, Commander; W. V. Gauvreau, Adjutant.

POST NO. 272

Burke-Towne Post, Maywood, Organized September 27, 1920, by M. J. Higgins.

Officers: (1920) M. J. Higgins, Commander; R. L. Roach, Adjutant; (1921) W. R. Gerkin, Commander; Julian Calkins, Adjutant; (1922) W. R. Gerkin, Commander; R. L. Roach, Adjutant.

POST NO. 273

Rejda Post, Brainard, Organized October 20, 1920, by Claude J. Hlavac and R. F. Havelka.

Officers: (1920) Claud J. Hlavac, Commander; R. F. Havelka, Adjutant; (1921) Claud J. Hlavac, Commander; R. F. Havelka, Adjutant; (1922) John C. Ort, Commander; Manley E. Westley, Adjutant.

POST NO. 274

Charles Jackson Post, Herman, Organized October 30, 1920, by G. W. Stangel.

Officers: (1920) G. W. Stangel, Commander; Frank T. Cranor, Adjutant; (1921) G. W. Stangel, Commander; Frank T. Cranor, Adjutant; (1922) G. W. Stangel, Commander; Fred Zimmerman, Adjutant.

Post No. 275

George S. Johnson Post, Big Springs, Organized October 30, 1920, by Jay J. Allen.

Officers: (1920) Jay J. Allen, Commander; R. P. Lintz, Adjutant; (1921) Wm. Walter Little, Commander; R. P. Lintz, Adjutant; (1922) Wm. Walter Little, Commander; Roy Lintz, Adjutant.

POST NO. 276

Danbury Post, Danbury, Organized October 30, 1920, by R. W. Yarnall.

Officers: (1920) Raymond W. Yarnall, Commander; C. R. Henton, Adjutant; (1921) Raymond W. Yarnall, Commander; E. F. Ervin, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. M. Ryan, Commander; Edward Roberts, Adjutant.

POST NO. 277

Baker-McElwain Post, Merriman, Organized October 30, 1920, by R. C. Bartels.

Officers: (1920) R. C. Bartels, Commander; (1921) R. C. Bartels, Commander; Howard Evans, Adjutant; (1922) R. P. Bowman, Commander; G. G. White, Resigned; J. E. Markley, Adjutants.

POST NO. 278.

Guide Rock Post, Guide Rock, Organized November 20, 1920, by Dean C. Crary.

Officers: (1920) Dean C. Crary, Commander; James F. Teachworth, Adjutant; (1921) Dean C. Crary, Commander; James F. Teachworth, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. H. R. Cosford, Commander; Howard J. Hamilton, Adjutant.

POST NO. 279.

Paul R. Martin Post, Hershey, Organized November 20, 1920, by F. E. Davis and F. D. Brewer.

Officers: (1920) F. E. Davis, Commander; F. D. Brewer, Adjutant; (1921) F. E. Davis, Commander; F. D. Brewer, Adjutant; (1922) F. E. Davis, Commander; F. D. Brewer, Adjutant.

POST NO. 280.

Bennet Post, Bennet, Organized December 4, 1920, by A. D. Bratt.

Officers: (1920) W. W. DeWolfe, Commander; A. D. Bratt, Adjutant; (1921) W. W. DeWolfe, Commander; A. D. Bratt, Adjutant; (1922) H. L. Aden, Commander; Resigned: Chas. H. Monk, Commander; A. D. Bratt, Adjutant.

POST NO. 281.

William Egle Post, Stratton, Organized December 20, 1920, by Wade R. Martin.

Officers: (1920) Wade R. Martin, Commander; (1921) Wade R. Martin, Commander; Myron A. Gordon, Adjutant; (1922) Thos. D. Rife, Commander; Wm. B. Ratcliff, Adjutant.

POST NO. 282.

Weimer Post, Waco, Organized January 6, 1921, by E. Loyal Roggy and Henry W. Wellman.

Officers: (1921) E. Loyal Roggy and H. W. Wellman, Commanders; A. C. Thornburg, Adjutant; (1922) C. S. Thorpe, Commander; E. L. Roggy, Adjutant.

POST NO. 283.

Parry Post, Platte Center, Organized January 7, 1921, by Lester H. Anderson.

Officers: (1921) Lester H. Anderson, Commander; (1922) Joseph Bogus, Commander; Francis Kennitz, Adjutant.

POST NO. 284.

Thomas O. Shields Post, Upland, Organized January 7, 1921, by Raymond Danuelsen.

Officers: (1921) Louis Bertrand, Commander; Charles Lindgren, Adjutant; (1922) Dr. W. D. Devers, Commander; Charles Lindgren, Adjutant.

POST NO. 285.

Ralph R. Rich Post, North Loup, Organized January 12, 1921, by John Cleary.

Officers: (1921) John Cleary, Commander; J. P. Jones, Adjutant; (1922) Herbert L. Johnson, Commander; Frank Schudel, Adjutant.

POSA NO. 286.

American Legion Post, Lodge Pole, Organized January 12, 1921, by James G. Wolfe.

Officers: (1921) Alonzo G. Miller, Commander; James G. Wolfe, Adjutant; (1922) Rudy I. Marek, Commander; William Emanuelson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 287.

Hayes County Post, Hayes Center, Organized January 14, 1921, by C. J. Wolford.

Officers: (1921) C. E. Rice, Commander; Carl Wolford, Adjutant; (1922) C. E. Rice, Commander; F. E. Fruhling, Adjutant.

POST NO. 288.

Farnam Post, Farnam, Organized January 14, 1921, by Alfred E. Reeves.

Officers: (1921) Cecil H. Williams, Commander; Charles E. Davidson, Adjutant; (1922) Cecil H. Williams, Commander; Charles E. Davidson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 289.

Brown-Hays Post, Table Rock, Organized January 26, 1921, by Robert Hickman.

Officers: (1921) Dr. L. D. Harmon, Commander; Harrison E. Madden, Adjutant; (1922) Wm. Vondrasek, Commander; Harrison E. Madden, Adjutant.

POST NO. 290.

Pfieffer-Morgan Post, Elwood, Organized January 26, 1921, by Ernest F. Wade.

Officers: (1921) Ernest F. Wade, Commander; Harold Craig, Adjutant; (1922) Carl Rasmussen, Commander; J. M. Reynolds, Adjutant.

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POST NO. 291.

Potter Post, Potter, Organized January 26, 1921, by Lester R. Hager.

Officers: (1921) N. S. Miller, Commander; L. R. Hager, Adjutant; (1922) Alfred Arnell, Commander; L. R. Hager, Adjutant.

POST NO. 292.

Western Post, Dix, Organized January 26, 1921, by Gregory A. Wagner.

Officers: (1921) W. R. Ehlers, Commander; Geo. P. Young, Adjutant; (1922) Geo. P. Young, Commander; A. Westmoreland, Adjutant.

POST NO. 293.

Funston Post, Huntley, Organized February 23, 1921 by Robert A. Jeffrey.

Officers: (1921) Robert A. Jeffrey, Commander; (1922) Robert A. Jeffrey, Commander; Arthur M. Arehart, Adjutant.

POST NO. 296

Frank McMillen Post, Shelby, Organized April 7, 1921, by D. W. McFadden.

Officers: (1921) D. W. McFadden, Commander; (1922) D. W. McFadden, Commander.

POST NO. 297.

Shelton Post, Shelton, Organized May 17, 1921, by C. W. Hill.

Officers: (1921) C. W. Hill, Commander; Resigned; Kempton Merdinger, Commander; (1922) Kempton Merdinger, Commander; Edwin L. Searle, Adjutant.

POST NO. 298.

Clifford Clark Post, Burwell, Organized May 19, 1921, by G. B. Flagg.

Officers: (1921) S. O. Mitchell, Commander; G. B. Flagg, Adjutant; (1922) Eugene E. Clark, Commander; G. B. Flagg, Adjutant.

POST NO. 299.

Spalding Post, Spalding, Organized May 26, 1921, by Daniel W. Healey.

Officers: (1921) Daniel W. Healey, Commander; D. J. Murphy, Adjutant; (1922) Frank J. O'Brien, Commander; John C. Giever, Adjutant.

POST NO. 300.

Davey Post, Davey, Organized June 20, 1921, by Walter F. Sorensen.

Officers: (1921) Harry Robertson, Commander; Walter F. Sorensen, Adjutant; (1922) Louis W. Everson, Commander; Walter F. Sorensen, Adjutant.

POST NO. 301

Joe McCarthy Post, Bradshaw, Organized June 20, 1921, by Harry E. Palmer.

Officers: (1921) Roy E. Carlisle, Commander; Harry E. Palmer, Adjutant; (1922) Archie Gray, Commander; Harry E. Palmer, Adjutant.

POST NO. 302.

Sucha Post, Leigh, Organized June 20, 1921, by Ed. Rozmarin.

Officers: (1921) Norman Fowler, Commander; W. A. Vlach, Adjutant; (1922) Norman Fowler, Commander; W. A. Vlach, Adjutant.

POST NO. 303.

Hankins-Miller Post, Paxton, Organized June 20, 1921, by Fred H. Crook.

Officers: (1921) L. C. Cantry, Commander; Fred H. Crook, Adjutant; (1922) P. F. Conroy, Commander; F. H. Crook, Adjutant.

POST NO. 304.

Willard Hansen Post, Wauneta, Organized June 24, 1921, by Frank E. Walker.

Officers: (1921) John W. Green, Commander; P. H. Person, Adjutant; (1922) G. W. Flewelling, Commander; Louis A. Grimm, Adjutant.

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POST NO. 305.

Brawnville Post, Brownville, Organized July 13, 1921,
by Omer C. Van Nest.

Officers: (1921) Omer C. Van Nest, Commander; (1922)
Omer C. Van Nest, Commander.

POST NO. 306.

Newman Post, Creston, Organized August 5, 1921, by
H. R. Palmateer.

Officers: (1921) Art Softly, Commander; W. J. Ritter,
Adjutant; (1922) Art Softly, Commander; W. J. Ritter,
Adjutant.

POST NO. 307.

Cownie Church Post, South Sioux City, Organized
August 5, 1921, by Lloyd M. Church.

Officers: (1921) Arthur Lampman, Commander; Lloyd
Church, Adjutant; (1922) Arthur Lampman, Commander;
Lloyd Church, Adjutant.

POST NO. 308.

Roy Schiffern Post, Norden, Organized August 5, 1921,
by Percy L. Springer.

Officers: (1921) Percy L. Springer, Commander; (1922)
Percy L. Springer, Commander.

POST NO. 309.

Ed Cane Post, Lisco, Organized September 9, 1921, by
Almon A. Pickering.

Officers: (1921) James Bray, Commander; Howard F.
Outson, Adjutant; (1922) Ed. Mitchell and Lornie Spears,
Commander; Fay W. Neill, Adjutant.

POST NO. 310.

Bradley Buck Post, Gibbon, Organized September 19,
1921, by Glen T. Gibson.

Officers. (1921) Glen T. Gibson, Commander; (1922)
Glen T. Gibson, Commander; C. F. Buchanan, Adjutant.

POST NO. 311.

Quentin Roosevelt Post, Tobias, Organized October 3, 1921, by F. C. Bachoritch.

Officers: (1921) F. C. Bachoritch, Commander; Otto Kucera, Adjutant; (1922) F. C. Bachoritch, Commander; Raymond Gilliland, Adjutant.

POST NO. 312

Jesse Snider Post, Broadwater, Organized October 3, 1921, by J. O. Ross.

Officers: (1921) J. O. Ross Commander; Frank Longan, Adjutant; (1922) J. C. Ross, Commander; George Johnson, Adjutant.

POST NO. 313.

Lebanon Post, Lebanon, Organized October 17, 1921, by Dean E. Overstake.

Officers: (1921) Maurace Walters, Commander; Dean E. Overstake, Adjutant; (1922) Maurace Walters, Commander; Dean E. Overstake, Adjutant.

POST NO. 314.

Connor Benson Post, Wood River, Organized December 15, 1921, by . L. Brunner.

Officers: (1921) W. L. Brunner, Commander; (1922) W. L. Brunner, Commander; A. R. Burnwood, Adjutant.

POST NO. 315.

Kennedy Post, Page, Organized December 28, 1921, by C. A. Townsend, Jr.

Officers: (1921) C. A. Townsend, Jr., Commander; L. T. Soukup, Adjutant; (1922) C. A. Townsend, Jr., Commander; L. T. Soukup, Adjutant.

POST NO. 316.

Roy D. Knoble, Post, Elm Creek, Organized December 28, 1921, by Loran E. Abbot and Dr. C. A. Yoder.

Officers: (1921) Charles A. Palmer, Commander; Loran E. Abbot, Adjutant; (1922) Charles A. Palmer, Commander; Loran E. Abbot, Adjutant.

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POST NO. 317.

State Line Post, Hubbell, Organized December 30, 1921,
by H. M. Smith.

Officers: (1921) H. M. Smith, Commander; (1922) H.
M. Smith, Commander; J. E. Conklin, Adjutant.

POST NO. 318.

John L. Sullivan Post, Palisade, Organized January 6,
1922, by Fred Severns.

Officers: (1922) Fred Severns, Commander; Paul N.
Huber, Adjutant.

POST NO. 319.

Rieke-Meidl Post, Cody, Organized January 12, 1922,
by W. F. Schwartz and F. D. Jarchow.

Officers: (1922) F. D. Jarchow, Commander; Walter F.
Schwartz, Adjutant.

POST NO. 320.

Shamrock Post, Chambers, Organized January 23, 1922,
by George H. Baker.

Officers: (1922) George H. Baker, Commander.

POST NO. 321.

Roy Eaton Post, Pleasanton, Organized February 2,
1922, by A. G. V. Hays.

Officers: (1922) A. G. V. Hays, Commander; O. L. Ken-
field, Adjutant.

POST NO. 322.

Swanson Post, Monroe, Organized February 10, 1922,
by Charles W. Hill.

Officers: (1922) H. V. Millen, Commander; Charles W.
Hill, Adjutant.

POST NO. 323.

Carl Shannon Post, Brewster, Organized February 13,
1922, by Elmer Demarary.

Officers: (1922) Roy Simon, Commander; Lloyd G.
Wescott, Adjutant.

POST NO. 324.

Victor H. Peterson Post, Stapleton, Organized February 14, 1922, by G. C. Rowell.

Officers: (1922) G.C. Rowell, Commander; Robert P. Baskin, Adjutant.

POST NO. 325.

Clary Post, Salem, Organized March 1, 1922, by Oscar H. Oakes.

Officers: (1922) Dr. A. J. Smith, Commander; Oscar H. Oakes, Adjutant.

POST NO. 326.

Osmond Post, Osmond, Organized February 24, 1922, by Edward F. German.

Officers. (1922) Edward F. German, Commander.

POST NO. 327.

Lester Harrison Kindig Post, Doniphan, Organized March 13, 1922, by Harrison O. Wolfe and Ernest V. Lee.

Officers: (1922) Harrison O. Wolfe, Commander; Ernest V. Lee, Resigned; M. L. Hall Adjutant.

POST NO. 328.

Riverton Post, Riverton, Organized March 16, 1922, by John Ziegler.

Officers: (1922) John Ziegler, Commander;; Wm. Cline, Adjutant.

POST NO. 329.

Remmer Voss Post, Carleton, Organized April 29, 1922, by T. V. Bailey.

Officers: (1922) T. V. Bailey, Comander; H. C. Tagler, Adjutant.

POST NO. 330.

Bender-Reese Post, Johnson, Organized by group Ex-Service Men.

Officers: (1922) George E. Harpham, Commander.

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